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THE LEPROSY OF BUSINESS.

Lord Randolph Churchill's speech to his constituents impressed some of those who heard it with the idea that the Member for Paddington would have no objection to find himself once more inside the ranks of the Administration. That may be, and yet Lord Randolph may be as far off as ever from returning to his old place on the front Ministerial bench. But, whether in office or out of office, there is plenty of good work for Lord Randolph to do, and we are glad to see, from the question which he has put on the paper for to-night, that he seems to be determined to do it. We may therefore count upon Lord Randolph's energetic co-operation in carrying on a vigorous crusade against the cancer of corruption which eats into the very vitals of business, public and private.

Lord Randolph to-night will ask the Government whether they propose to do anything to give effect to the recommendations of the Royal Commission which has reported on the Metropolitan Board of Works. The recommendations of that Commission merely amount to an approval of the measure which Lord Randolph introduced, but which Mr. Conybeare blocked out last Session. That measure is unquestionably necessary, but in itself it will go a very short way; the Bill if passed into law would only make it a criminal offence to offer a tip to any member or official of any public body, as well as to provide for the punishment of any such person accepting such payment. This is important, no doubt, and when the time comes we shall be able to furnish Lord Randolph Churchill with evidence of the prevalence of carefully systematized corruption that will go far beyond anything which has yet been revealed to the public. Those who imagine that Lord Herschell's Commission unearthed all the scandals connected with the Metropolitan Board of Works labour under an immense delusion. There are other departments of that body which reek with corruption quite as much as those which have already been exposed. Nor is it only the Metropolitan Board of Works which is corrupt, but the purchasing departments in the great public services are also infected with the same malady. Lord Herschell's Commission ought to be made a permanent institution of the country. This we mentioned some months ago as an indispensable plank in the political platform of any party that wished to secure pure administration. Such a tribunal (and it could not have a better head than Lord Herschell) would have *carte blanche* to investigate all allegations of corruption which might be made against any public body, and it should be authorized to grant certificates of indemnity to all those whose evidence, honestly given, contributes to the discovery of truth.

The *Times* this morning publishes a ghastly story of the result of inoculating a condemned criminal in the Sandwich Islands with leprosy. The result is not dissimilar to that which follows the inoculating a public service with corruption. And the worst of it is, that while in Honolulu only condemned criminals are inoculated with leprosy, and that by order of the responsible Government, in this country, the inoculation of corruption is carried on in the most systematic fashion by private traders who are only seeking their own gain by the wholesale demoralization of public services and private business. We confess we were astonished when we were supplied with evidence showing how elaborate was the system of organized corruption by which it is becoming impossible for honest men to obtain a contract. We are in a position to state that one very well known firm, which advertises extensively, and does an immense business with public bodies, from the army and navy downwards, has covered the whole country with a network of corruption. There is hardly a town in which it has not some person filling a position of trust entered on its books as the recipient of bribes. These persons are often not highly placed, for the tempter is not above stooping to conquer. Foremen, inspectors, and all the small fry, upon whose good graces orders depend, are marked down for corruption. Payment to those people is carried on so openly that it can hardly be said to be a secret. But they are not the only people bribed. Those higher in the social scale who can distribute orders are bribed more cunningly, but if Lord Herschell were let loose on them we do not doubt that the public would be scandalized by the discovery of an organized system of public corruption which would leave few departments of our public service without its victim. We are speaking of that which we know, and in the name of common honesty and fair play between business men we hope that Lord Randolph will continue to press on his crusade against corruption.

There is too much reason to fear that there is far more rottenness in the transaction of business than is generally imagined. Wherever we apply the test the result is the same. The other day it was the Deccan scandal; to-day it is the Crauford Commission; to-morrow it may be the Ruby Mines concession. According to the *Times* correspondent at Calcutta, the evidence given by native officials in the judicial service discloses an extraordinary system of bribery and corruption. Native judicial witnesses confessed to having trafficked in public appointments and paid illegal gratifications to a public servant. Where is this to stop? We hope that Ministers in their own interest will challenge inquiry and afford every facility for the most exhaustive investigation. There must be no cloaking things up, no attempt to shuffle and evade the questions which will be put to them to-day. The public is suspicious, not without cause, and of all places in the world the India Office is that which should be most anxious to prove that current rumour has no solid foundation in fact.

"ARTS AND CRAFTS" IN JAPAN.—I.

(From our Travelling Commissioner.)

Tōkyō, August 27.

There is hardly a drawing-room in London or Paris or New York in which there are not one or two objects of Japanese art, and yet not until you reach Japan do you discover what the craze for Japanese "curios" really is.

Shopping "de luxe" in Japan.

Real objects of art are never exhibited by the dozen in Japan, either by dealers or private owners. A Japanese gentleman keeps his collection carefully packed away in boxes and cotton-wool, and when he has a guest coming he selects a few according to the time of year, the character of the rooms where he proposes to place them, and what he imagines to be the taste of his guest. A dealer keeps his stock in a fire-proof "go-down" attached to his shop and when you go to buy he invites you upstairs to a private room, arranges cushions on the floor for you, regales you with tea and sweetmeats, exchanges a series of compliments and small-talk, and after twenty minutes or half an hour he claps his hands and his boys bring the pieces in one by one, extracting each in turn from its box and soft wrapper of old brocade or cloth and setting it before you. Your inspection over, it is delicately wrapped up again. These boxes are beautifully made and are carefully preserved with the inscriptions on them and the wrappers, all of which furnish some evidence of authenticity. The dealer shows you what he likes and does not seem to care at all whether you buy or not. And it is not much use to ask him to show you any particular objects; the process is a kind of collector's lucky-bag—you must see them as they come out of the warehouse. Nor is it worth while, as you soon discover to your surprise, to bargain with him, except for articles of considerable value. If he shows you a screen for 500 dollars you might offer him 400 dollars, and a few days later it might be sent to your house for 450; but you would probably waste your time in offering him 45 dollars for a lacquer tray priced at 50. The dishonest dealers are perfectly well known, and few people trade with them except rich travellers who like to be told that the object before them is exactly what they are longing for; while the honest dealers are above suspicion of extortion.

A Day with the Japanese Artificers.

It is equally true of the best modern productions that you cannot see them in quantity anywhere. The makers of them are true artists in spirit, and to see them work you must follow them home and watch them executing commissions. Under the guidance of Captain Brinkley, I spent two days among the artificers of Tōkyō—two days of the keenest pleasures of art study. Most of those whom we visited lived on the extreme outskirts of Tōkyō, almost in the country, and each in his little home, with two or three pupils around him, worked away under delightful circumstances of life, and under conditions giving the freest scope to his own genius and fancy. The only place we visited that

resembled a factory was where *cloisonné* enamel was being made, and this unpleasant reminder of home was only due to the fact that an order for these enamels for the foreign market, sufficient to occupy several years, had recently been received.

How "Cloisonne" is made.

The process of making *cloisonné* is very complicated. First the plain copper vase or bowl or tray is taken between the knees of the workman, who snips off bits of brass, the sixteenth of an inch wide, from a long roll before him, bends them with tweezers and glues them on edge to the copper thus making the outlines and detail lines of the finished sketch lying before him. An apprentice is putting the simple pattern in this way upon the flat bottom of a tray, while the most skilful workman is poring over the delicate lines of the eyes and feathers of a cock on a plaque. This outline is next passed to a table between two workmen, who fill up the interstices with enamel, still following the coloured original before them, from fifty little cups of coloured pigments. Then the work is fired, again painted with enamels, again fired, and so on till little is seen but a daub-like distant copy. This is then polished down with the greatest care until the shining edge of the brass strips is reached and at precisely the same point the colours are a perfect copy of the painting. *Cloisonné* making is labour of the most minute kind, added to exquisite skill in the handling and combining of pigments. The result in its highest form is a painting more delicate than water colours, and more lasting than brass. Formerly only geometrical and decorative designs were thus made; now birds and fish and snow scenes have been reached.

An Ivory Carver and his Ideals.

An ivory-carver sat in his little room, open to his little garden, chiselling upon a magnificent tusk from which the form of a very graceful female figure was just emerging. The ivory he held between his knees, while his tools were all spread out by his side. "How long will this take you?" I asked. "About four months," he replied. "And what is the proportion between the value of the material and the value of the labour in such a work as this when completed?" "I paid 140 dollars for this piece of ivory, and four months' work at 50 dollars a month is 200 dollars. Total cost about 350 dollars"—£54. Fancy one of the most skilful and original artificers in the world—for this man's ivories are admired everywhere—simply estimating his own labour at 50 silver dollars—less than £8—a month, while at home our great painters do not hesitate to ask a thousand guineas for a picture covering a few square feet! Is there any doubt which is the true temperament of the artist? "Are you not very sorry sometimes to part with one of these works that has been your companion and part of your life for so long?" He looked up for a moment at a big white lily nodding above him in the garden, and then gently shook his head. "No," he said; "'Kondo no wa motto migoto no tsumori de gozaimasu'—I expect the next will be more beautiful."

A Plea for the poor Wood-carvers.

The wood-carver, seated with a dozen apprentices among his fragrant litter, knew that we were coming, and presented us each with a large sugar figured cake in a pretty box. "Yes, I am very poor," he said with a smile, "for wood-carving is out of fashion now. Nobody builds beautiful Japanese houses any more." He had just been so fortunate, however, as to get a commission for a number of pierced ventilating friezes for the new palace, and one of these he showed to us nearly completed—an exquisitely graceful design of flowers and flying storks. If rich English and Americans only knew for what trifling sums such a man as this would produce for them carved woodwork for their mansions, far more beautiful than they could get elsewhere for ten times—yes, fifty times—the cost, he would not be poor long.

The Mysteries of Lacquer-making.

The most interesting and elaborate process is lacquer-making, and its results, both new and old, form a majority of the art-products of Japan, as it has been the most characteristic and popular Japanese art for 1,500 or perhaps 2,000 years. It is so elaborate that I can give only the most meagre outline of it. The object, generally a tray, a box or a cabinet, is first made in thin white pine, as only Japanese carpenters can make such things; then the joints are all covered with muslin and rice glue and a thin coat of lacquer, and the whole is dried in the oven. Lacquer is the sap of the lacquer-tree, *Rhus vernicifera*, drawn off by making incisions in the bark during the rainy season, and secretly prepared. Then thin hemp cloth is stretched tightly over the whole surface, upon a basis of mixed lacquer and wheat-flour. Then coat after coat of different kinds of lacquer is laid on, polishing after polishing is given, till after the last coat the last polish is attained with powdered calcined deer's horn applied with the finger. The gold mottled surface is produced by dusting gold flake through a little muslin sieve, and the designs upon coloured lacquer are first traced on in gold and then the powders are applied in a multitude of ways, from the brushes of rat's hair and hare's hair and cat's hair and human hair, and hair from the long winter coat of a horse, to the simple pad of cotton-wool. Old gold lacquer is so extremely costly, the artificer told us, because of the large quantity of gold used to obtain the right surface. "The price of this box, which I have just finished," he said, showing us a wonderful specimen of gold lacquer design in cherry-blossoms and trees, with a river and houses in the distance, "is 300 dollars, and it has been eight months in hand. If I had made it as they made the old lacquer it would cost 600 dollars, but there would be no market for it."

"It is Japanese."

The actual manual skill of the Japanese artificer seems remarkable to us, but it does not strike his fellow-countrymen as being much out of the common. And indeed the traveller in Japan soon learns to transfer his wonder from the individual to the nation. This extraordinary people, who pull the saw or the plane towards them instead of pushing it away, who make the threads of their screws run the other way from ours, who sit down in the presence of a superior as a mark of respect, who blow their noses upon paper and wrap their parcels in pocket-handkerchiefs, are born with a manual dexterity that is simply astonishing. What the ordinary Japanese most enjoys in his works of art is the quaint or comic telling of a story or depicting of a humorous incident. The carving of the man carefully lifting the box which he has put down over a rat, and waiting with uplifted club to smash it as it comes out, while the rat, having eaten away a corner, has escaped up his sleeve and is sitting on his back watching the process over his shoulder—that is the spirit which appeals to their fancy. I have taken a great many photographs in Japan of all sorts of people, instantaneous street-views, studies of dancers and portraits of *geisha*, and although some of them seemed to me rather interesting, my Japanese friends did not care for them at all. But one day I took a picture of a very pretty girl with her arm round a large carved wooden *Daruma*—an effigy of the saint who squatted in such a prolonged inward contemplation of the nature of things that his legs rotted off—and looking teasingly into his face with an appealing look, while his fixed gaze over her head seems to be an appeal for help against the temptress. And over this picture at last my friends were enthusiastic. "That is excellent," they said, "it is delightful—*it is Japanese*!" Actually the fame of this photograph reached the reporters and a paragraph appeared in the newspapers, congratulating me upon it, and giving the name of the owner of the *Daruma*—a very sedate person—who was by no means grateful for notoriety of that particular kind.

FOR FREE SCHOOLS AND FREE MEALS.

An Interview with Mrs. Annie Besant.

The most advanced programme now before the electors of London in the pending School Board election is that which has been issued by Mrs. Annie Besant, in the Tower Hamlets. Mrs. Besant is the only candidate in the Tower Hamlets, a division comprising 60,000 electors, who has been selected by the joint committees of the Liberal and Radical Federations; and her candidature is also interesting as that of one of the few women who are standing for election during the present contest. For the five seats in the Tower Hamlets there are at the present moment eight genuine candidates in the field and three more or less bogus—that is to say, the latter have not issued any address that is visible to the outside world. The Church are running three, the Nonconformists two; Sir Edmund Currie stands by himself on an independent footing, and Colonel Prendergast is the Catholic candidate. Independent of all these is Mrs. Besant. Some others who were nominated, and who are somewhat on the same platform, retired in order to make her election beyond doubt. In order to ascertain how London electors have taken to a very advanced programme our representative called upon Mrs. Besant, at the offices of the *Link*, 34, Bouverie-street. The candidate was up to her eyes in proof-sheets and other papers connected with the late International Congress, but she laid them on one side for a few moments in order to answer the questions of our representative. Mrs. Besant was looking very well, considering that she is in the midst of a contested election, and in better spirits than she has been for some time.

"Yes, I am very well, thank you," she said, "although I am speaking nearly every night. It is an immense district, going right down as far as the Isle of Dogs, and including by the way the whole of Whitechapel. It is hard work covering the whole constituency. I am not canvassing myself, but my committee are canvassing, and also my match-girls, of whose voluntary help I am very proud. I am confining myself to public speaking."

"How are your meetings attended?"—"They are crowded. If public meetings were any test, which, unfortunately, they seldom are, there would be no doubt about my return. Nothing could be better than the attendance and the enthusiasm of my meetings. They tell me they are much the best attended of those of any of the candidates; but that, of course, is probably due to the fact that I am better known as a speaker than any of my opponents."

"And how do you find your programme received?"—"With the greatest enthusiasm. I have very little opposition, and the most popular planks of my platform are free education and free meals. Free education is very popular both with people who would benefit by it and with the teachers, whose time is wasted by filling in the multiplicity of papers: the whole of Friday afternoon, I am told, is often consumed by filling up the returns for the Board, most of which would be unnecessary if education were free. The whole additional cost that would be entailed by abolishing fees would be one-fourth of the expense of our present education, and against this increase there will be a great many set-offs in the shape of diminished costs of prosecution, increased attendance, and saving of time and labour." "But do not the ratepayers object?"—"So far I have not found any objection. I am always careful to explain that I think the rates are high enough already, and I would not propose to increase the rates by one penny, either for free education or for

free meals. For the cost of the free meals I should go to the City Companies, and the cost of free education I would defray by a special rate on ground landlords—two propositions which are always received with great cordiality by my hearers. Of course, all that we can do is to organize the free voluntary meal, for we have no power under the Act of Parliament to provide free meals for scholars."

"I think that you object to payment by results?"—"No, I do not; but I object to our present system of payment by results, which is a very different thing. I incline more to the Continental system of making grants, subject to the careful and intelligent periodical examination of the school by inspectors. The system is described by Matthew Arnold in his 'Essays on Education.'"

"Is your Socialism a disadvantage in the contest?"—"No; on the whole, not; while it may excite some opposition it generates more enthusiasm, and the active Socialists are working for me with untiring energy."

"Is your sex a disadvantage?"—"Rather the contrary. There are too few women on the School Board, and it is generally felt among the electors that there should be more women on the Board than there are."

"What, then, is chiefly used against you?"—"Chiefly my secularism. I do not believe that religion should be taught in the school; neither do I believe that the Bible should be read as a school book. It can hardly be read without being explained, and if you allow explanations you open the door for the inculcation of innumerable religious, or anti-religious, views by the teacher."

"You do not agree, then, with Professor Huxley, who was in favour of reading the Bible as an English classic?"—"No, I do not; and I think if I were a Christian I should strongly object to treating the Bible in any such fashion."

"Has this objection much hold on the constituency?"—"Not so far as I can see. I am told that the Church party are meditating the launching of a manifesto against me, but it does not very much matter; if it intensifies the hostility of those who are opposed to me, it will increase the enthusiasm of those who are already on my side. The Christian Evidence people have been down moving amendments at my meetings, but they have only on one occasion carried with them a very small and miserable minority of my audience. The other day in Victoria Park I was accused of having advocated criminal practices as a remedy for over-population. Mr. Burrows went down, challenged my accuser to substantiate his allegations, and read from my writings a passage strongly condemnatory of the practices imputed to me; whereupon the meeting passed an emphatic resolution denouncing my assailant as a slanderer, and then 'went' for his platform, from which he disappeared suddenly, and, let us hope, for ever."

"What will be the cost of the election per candidate?"—"It may be anything you like to make it. We are distributing 70,000 of these handbills, and my address, from house to house. We have no paid workers at all, my only expenses being the hire of halls and committee rooms, and the printing and posting of bills. Altogether I do not think my expenses will amount to more than £60, or about £1 per 1,000 of the electors, and this is being met by subscription. I do not think the contest will be allowed to cost me a penny."

"Is there a very keen interest in the contest?"—"Not very: at the last election only one out of every five electors voted."

"You are appealing for 'plumpers,' I see. Will you be able to secure much Irish support?"—"Some; Colonel Prendergast is a strong Coercionist, and the Irish are revolting exceedingly against him on that ground. He tries to counteract it by invoking religion as against our political cry, and urges that I am against religion."

"One word more. Have you formed any idea as to the amount of money that will be required to give a free meal to all the children in the Board schools?"—"No, not yet; the realization of that ideal is not sufficiently close at hand to demand such calculation in detail. We are contending for the principle, and the principle is accepted almost everywhere, subject to the proviso that the cost of the meals shall not be provided out of the ratepayers, as the people are heavily enough rated already."

Thereupon, wishing Mrs. Besant every success in her candidature, our representative took his departure.

"MODERN STREET BALLADS."*

OF all Mr. Ashton's curious collections, this is, if not the most valuable, certainly the most amusing. It consists of about 140 popular lyrics of the sort which the accomplished Mr. Silas Wegg used to display upon his canvas screen. They range in date from 1797 (the Mutiny at the Nore) to 1856 (the execution of Palmer, the Rugeley murderer). One, indeed, "The Bold Irish Yankee Benicia Boy," refers to the prizefight between Heenan and Sayers in 1860. It was about the middle of the century that the music-hall lyric and "topical song" of to-day began to supersede the old street ballad. Mr. Wegg's occupation is now practically gone. The amateur can buy for a penny, in a huge ill-printed pamphlet, an amount of popular poetry equivalent to his whole stock in trade. Yet one or two of the old ballad-mongers survive. One has his stand, or had until recently, close to the Holborn Town Hall; another, if we are not mistaken, has pitched his screen in the neighbourhood of the new Cambridge-circus. Practically, however, the ballads which Mr. Ashton here reprints are things of the past. They are not only delightful reading, but afford most curious insight into the manners and customs, the social and political conditions, of England in the first half of this century.

Mr. Ashton divides his material into "Social," "Humorous," "Country," "Sea," "Historical," "Political," and "Miscellaneous" Ballads, with a special heading for songs about the Queen. The first section opens with the legend, dear to the Gallic heart, of the sale of a carpenter's wife to a jolly Jack Tar for the sum of ten shillings. Then comes a ditty with the refrain, "A woman never knows when her day's work's done," inculcating upon husbands the duty of forbearance. "The Treats of London," "The Income Tax," "The New Brighton Diligence," Father Mathew and his temperance crusade, the new "Bobbies" or "Peelers," "Jullien's Grand Polka," and "The Crystal Palace," are among the subjects celebrated in this section. The song, "If I had a donkey wot wouldn't go," parodied by Mrs. Jarley in "The Old Curiosity Shop," appears to have arisen out of Martin's Act for the prevention of cruelty to animals. Prominent among the humorous ballads is "Villikins and his Dinah," immortalized by Robson. "Giles Scroggin's Ghost" is not so well known. It sets forth how Giles Scroggin was to have been married to Molly Brown, but, dying on the wedding-day, appeared in ghostly guise to his lady love as she lay weeping on her bed:—

The ghost it said all solemnly
Fol de riddle lol, de riddle lido,
Oh Molly, you must go with me
Fol de riddle, &c.
All in the grave your love to cool,
Says she, I am not dead, you fool,
Says the ghost, says he, vy, that's no rule
Fol de riddle, &c.

This is evidently a debased form of the widely disseminated legend which found its best-known literary form in Bürger's "Leonore;" but the Cockney poet shrinks from the tragic conclusion, and makes Molly awake to find it all a dream. A more serious ghost was that of the "Unfortunate Miss Bailey," who, after hanging herself in her garters, appeared one night to her military seducer, "a Captain bold, in Halifax":—

"Avaunt Miss Bailey," then he cried, "your face looks white and mealy,"
"Dear Captain Smith," the ghost replied, "you've used me ungenteely;
The Crowner's Quest goes hard with me, because I've acted frailly,
And parson Biggs won't bury me, though I am dead Miss Bailey."
Oh, Miss Bailey! unfortunate Miss Bailey!

Another famous ballad of a tragic cast is that of "The Ratcatcher's Daughter," who loved so dearly a vendor of lilywhite sand that, although sprats were her peculiar merchandise, she used to astonish her customers by calling, "Buy my lilywhite sand, oh!" This fond maiden was accidentally drowned shortly before the date fixed for her marriage; and—

When Lilywhite Sand he heard the news
His eyes ran down with water,
Says he in love I'll constant prove,
And, blow me if I live long arter,
So he cut his throat with a piece of glass,
And stabbed his donkey arter,
So there was an end of Lilywhite Sand,
His ass, and the Ratcatcher's Daughter.

The moral story of George Barnwell is succinctly yet realistically treated, the catastrophe being told as follows:—

Now Georgy was hung upon a gibbet
Molly Milwood died in prison,
At her fate no one lamented,
But everybody pitied his'n.

Another hero is Jonathan Brown, who, along with shaving and dressing, undertook "cupping and bleeding and drawing of teeth":—

But he wasn't like one of your dentists in town,
Who for drawing a grinder would charge you a crown,
For, if you were only to give him a job,
Oh! he'd draw you all over the shop for a bob.

"The Dutchman's Cork Leg," of course, figures among the humorous ballads, "Billy Taylor," along with several other legends of female mariners, among the nautical ditties. The Reform Bill and the Corn Laws supply matter for most of the political songs, and under the miscellaneous heading we find one, and only one, nigger song, the famous "Jim Crow." Mr. Ashton's explanatory and illustrative notes are generally to the point, though, by the way, he treats with unmerited contempt a powerfully-written Chartist poem, "The Song of the Lower Classes." The illustrations, most of them reproductions of woodcuts of far older date than the ballads they accompany, enhance the interest of a very entertaining book.

* "Modern Street Ballads." By John Ashton. (London: Chatto and Windus, 1888.)

TWO NEW NOVELS.

"Lady Bluebeard." By the author of "Zit and Xoe." (Blackwood). Two vols. Those who think to find a thrilling sensational tale of matrimonial wrong beneath the title of "Lady Bluebeard" will be disappointed. The book resembles a burlesque in its almost complete absence of plot. In truth, it is half book of travel, half common place book. As a book of travel the descriptions of Bussorah and other places in the East are interesting and well written; as a commonplace book it contains certain flashes of wit and humour among its masses of general conversations; but as a novel it is superfluous.

"The Admirable Lady Biddy Fane." Frank Barrett. (Cassell and Co.) Three vols. The reader who loves an exciting tale of adventure will find plenty of food for his appetite here. The story is laid in the days of the Spanish Main; and it contains all the usual ingredients of bloody combats and hair-breadth escapes from pirates, savages, and slave-dealers, with a fair lady to cast a glamour of love over it all. Needless to add, the influence both of Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Besant is apparent alike in the matter and manner of this book. The tale is well told, the supply of adventures inexhaustible, and the interest sustained to the end.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

We are heartily sorry to hear that Mr. Balfour is unwell. But we are not surprised. There was so much of the "thin eagerness of the partisan," so strained and exaggerated a tone in his speech at Leeds, that his friends feared the burden of office was proving too much for the Chief Secretary. He has stood the wear and tear of the Irish Office much better than any one believed to be possible, for Mr. Balfour has never possessed very robust health. His doctor told him, however, before he accepted the post, that the heavy collar work of official administration would do his health more good than anything else. So far the doctor has proved a true prophet. We hope it will prove so until the end.

The report from China that the Russians have concluded a secret treaty placing Corea under Russian protection must be taken *cum grano salis*. We hope, however, to have authentic intelligence from Corea before long. Our Travelling Commissioner, one of whose letters from Japan we publish to-day, ought by this time to have left Vladivostock for the capital of Corea, and when the post comes we shall hear how much truth there is at the bottom of this story. One thing is certain—namely, that Russia has no intention of embroiling herself in a war with China for all the Coreans that ever lived.

That terrible question of mixed tribunals in Egypt is coming up again for settlement. The Act which established this *imperium in imperio* on the Nile expires in February next, when, unless something is done, Egypt will go back to the primitive condition of things that existed under the capitulations before the international tribunals were established. The Egyptian Government offer to prolong their operation for five years, provided that they are authorized to deal with the subjects of all nations for offences entailing simple police penalties only. It will be well if this suggestion is adopted; the existing impunity enjoyed under Consular jurisdiction for many criminal offences is very scandalous. It may be noted in passing that, in an interesting letter in the *Morning Post* to-day, from a correspondent who evidently knows what he is talking about, it is strongly insisted that the institution of mixed tribunals in Morocco is the only way to avert serious complications in that country.

People should not take too seriously King Leopold's address to the committee of the Flemish theatre. His Belgian Majesty has got compulsory service on the brain. He never loses an opportunity, in season or out of season, of saying a word for his favourite fad. His ministers are against it, because his subjects are against it, but he keeps pegging away whenever he gets the chance. His speech last week only indicates that if last week brought him a chance of making a speech, it does not justify the inference that it brought him any clearer vision of the constantly impending war.

We entirely agree with Mr. Labouchere (in this morning's *Times*) that the right place for trying the experiment of evening opening, promised by Mr. Smith on Friday, is the British Museum proper in Bloomsbury, and not its Natural History branch at Kensington. Bloomsbury is in the centre of working London. Kensington is far away from it, in the centre of lazy London. Of recent years there has been a marked falling off in the evening attendances at the South Kensington Museum, and of such visitors as there are, a large proportion are well-to-do people. To try the experiment at South Kensington, therefore, would not give it a fair chance. Mr. Labouchere should press Mr. Smith to localize his promise to Bloomsbury.

Mr. G. P. Hawtrey's burlesque of "Atalanta," which was produced on Saturday night at the Strand Theatre, now in the hands of Mr. Charles Hawtrey, might surely be turned into a success. The first two acts went remarkably well, the lines are smartly written, Mr. Wingfield's dresses are picturesque, and Miss Linden and Mr. F. Wyatt are a very clever pair of burlesque artists who worked very hard to secure success. Miss Linden's imitation of Miss Anderson is much too good to be lost, and the little passage between Hippomenes (Mr. Wyatt) and Aphrodite (Miss Alma Stanley) was a great hit. It was the wretchedly tedious business in Act 3, that roused the ire of the house. The race between Atalanta and Hippomenes was run at Sandown, or was it Epsom? The shouts of the brazen "bookies" drowned the dialogue. The gentlemen who represented the members of the Jockey Club were supers of the deepest dye, pantomimic horses were introduced, and what was to have been the great success of the burlesque proved a disastrous failure. It is a great pity if such a lot of good material is wasted. The choruses of stewards and jockeys and owners might be made very funny. Some of the make-ups are extremely good. A pretty danseuse new to theatrical fame—a Miss Cunningham—made a decided hit. Mr. Brandon Thomas's clever little curtain-raiser was very warmly received.

The Italian Senate has passed the new Penal Code by a large majority. That is bad for the Italian Senate. For the new Penal Code differs from the old in that it subjects all Catholic priests to severe pains and penalties if they do not do violence to their consciences by keeping silence upon the papal claims to the Eternal City. It is deplorable to see the youngest of the Kingdoms returning to the mire of persecution in which the oldest of the Churches wallowed so long, as to make the very name of Christian stink in the nostrils of millions of men.

Lord Carnarvon's contribution to the Queensland discussion comes to this: that the Government should withhold the form, but grant the substance, of what the colony asks. To formally "submit" the name of an intended Governor to the Colonial Government would be unwise. But, on the other hand, to appoint anybody but a *persona grata* would be insane. The present case shows that the unaided wisdom of the Colonial Office is sometimes unable to fulfil the second condition. Obviously, therefore, the only solution is an informal consultation of the Colonial Government before any appointment is gazetted.

We report elsewhere the meeting which was held on Saturday at Mrs. Bunting's, under the presidency of the Countess of Aberdeen, for the purpose of selecting a lady candidate for the County Council of London. The choice of the meeting fell upon the Dowager Lady Sandhurst, and Miss Cobden, and even those who dissent entirely from the political activity of women must admit that, if women are to stand as candidates, a better choice could hardly have been made. Lady Aberdeen herself would have been an ideal candidate in many respects, but it was impossible for her to qualify as a ratepayer in time to permit of her nomination. The candidature of the ladies, if it effects no other result, will at least have done some good in reminding women generally that the Local Government Act has been passed—a fact concerning which many well-educated ladies seem to be completely in the dark. There will be only two women candidates for the County Council, but there are seven for the London School Board—namely, Miss Davenport-Hill, Mrs. Ashton Dilke, Mrs. Augusta Webster, Mrs. Hicks, Mrs. Maitland, Mrs. M. Evans, and Mrs. Annie Besant.

Lord Randolph was altogether "out of it" in his calculation about the uncontested seats upon which he relied to upset Mr. Gladstone's Birmingham figures. Lord Randolph made an estimate of the number of voters on each side in these constituencies, and produced thereby a majority of 425,000 for the Unionists. But he entirely ignored the fact that the Unionists' uncontested victories were as a rule in small constituencies (*e.g.*, Canterbury, Cambridge, Oxford), whereas the Liberal victories were in large constituencies (*e.g.*, Gateshead, Hanley, Merthyr). The result of this difference is that although the Unionists had a large majority of *seats* among the uncontested constituencies in Great Britain, the Gladstonians had a majority of *voters*.

This is a matter not of speculation, but of fact—as will be seen very clearly by the following figures, which give—(1) in the case of seats uncontested in 1886, but contested in 1885, the aggregate votes at the former election; and (2) in the case of seats uncontested at either election, two-thirds of the electorate assigned to the party in possession:—

	Liberals.	Conservatives.
Contested in 1885	585,508	594,281
Uncontested in 1885	44,518	22,330
	630,026	616,611

The Liberal majority in uncontested seats was thus 13,415. The Tory majority on the contested elections was 76,270—thus leaving as the net Tory majority in Great Britain 62,855. All these facts were duly set forth in black and white in our analysis of the General Election nearly three years ago. Is it not rather absurd of Lord Randolph to be still floundering about in estimates and hypotheses?

"The flowing tide is with us." The Liberal party is right to be of good cheer. Every week, we had almost said every day, provides some token of substantial progress along the path of popular approbation. The latest and one of the most important of these signs is the

re-conversion of the *Christian World* to Liberal policy as inculcated by Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues. The *Christian World* recognizes that the Unionist party has "shamelessly broken their pledges in regard to equality of government in Great Britain and Ireland;" that "they have made law and order a matter of class interest." But "they have made abnormal powers and arbitrary procedure in Ireland not a temporary expedient but a permanent stain on the Statute-book;" and that "while Coercionists have thus shamelessly broken their pledges, the temper of the Irish people has been manifestly changing for the better." "We will be no supporters of an un-English and un-Christian tyranny," it cries. And Bingley Hall has done this. Lord Hartington and Lord Salisbury are heartily welcome to their Irish "Nonconformists" after so important an adhesion to our ranks as this.

THE BALL SET ROLLING.

WOMEN CANDIDATES FOR THE COUNTY COUNCILS.

AT last the ball has been fairly set rolling: not in haste, not with noise, but quietly, deliberately, and well. On Saturday afternoon a meeting of the kind which reporters call "small but influential" was held at Mrs. Percy Bunting's, 11, Endsleigh-gardens, a well-known rallying place of all good work. Many of the faces seen were those familiar as being to the front in every effort for the economical or political advancement of women; some were known among the friends of education or philanthropy; others were simply those of persons of experience in local administration, and possessed by a wish to put the work of the new Councils, whether in London or the country, into the hands of those people, be they men or women, who are best fitted to carry it out. Ladies, of course, were in the majority; but among the speakers were Mr. Corrie Grant, Mr. Percy Bunting, Mr. Costelloe, and other gentlemen. "Can women be County Councillors?" is a question which was asked, and answered in the affirmative, in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of October 22. "*Shall* women be County Councillors—and if so, who, and how?" were the questions successfully grappled with at this preliminary meeting.

Lady Aberdeen, who presided, began an admirable opening address by waiving, for present purposes, the technical point. That, as was pointed out by a subsequent speaker, is only of interest from one point of view. It depends practically on the wording of an Act passed in 1882. We have moved on since then. In the history of a cause scarcely more than two decades old, six years is a long while. If, as is possible, women are not eligible, Parliament must make them so. The best way to bring that about is to elect one or more women, and the technical inquiry is only interesting as it conduces to that result. The case for the claim, in the opinion of some excellent lawyers, is a good one; and nothing is more likely to rouse public attention in the question, and to encourage public effort in the cause, than the prospect that, even as the law already stands, a woman of the ratepayers' choice may be able to sit and to help in administering their affairs in the County Councils.

This, as Lady Aberdeen observed, is a matter that can only be settled by a direct test. The object of the meeting was to make sure that the test should be applied under the most favourable circumstances possible. Here was a new field for women's work, thoroughly adapted to their powers: one in which they could do their proper duty of promoting the public well-being, infusing a high tone in the discussion of public questions, caring for those who cannot care for themselves, giving play to their conscientious spirit and talent for details; in a word, extending the good work they have done on school boards and boards of guardians. Women asked to take their share in a new duty, rather than to assert a new right. They felt called on to help in such work as the provision, maintenance, and visitation of asylums for pauper lunatics; the establishment and maintenance of industrial and reformatory schools; the licensing of music and dancing halls, the regulation of baby-farming, the carrying out of the Artisans' Dwellings Improvement Act, the preservation of common and open spaces, and a hundred such duties of the new Council. In a word, what Lady Aberdeen kept ever in the front was the broad view of the public interest. It is a good beginning.

Lady Sandhurst and Miss Cobden having signified their willingness to stand, resolutions were passed in support of their candidature, and also for the appointment of a committee to further the general object. Great anxiety was shown to find also a good Tory candidate, the object being to avoid crossing the issues with those of party. Wanted, a competent Primrose dame, who fulfils the conditions of rating, &c.!

Two remarks in conclusion, and one to the friends of women's suffrage. It is said that Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Octavia Hill, after considering a request to stand, pleaded that they had work to do already. Of course, and so have all women who are willing and competent to do work at all. If Lady Sandhurst and Miss Cobden had been idle all their lives we should not want them for the Council. Another scruple—the fear of frightening timid supporters of the suffrage—should be equally discarded. It will still be as easy to deny the right to be elected to Parliament while giving the vote. If women sit for County Councils, it will only be by a specific enactmen to that effect (Sec. 63), which need not be repeated. Afterwards, when women have the vote, it will rest with them, and to seek to comfort the weak-kneed by pretending to mortgage future liberty is both silly and disingenuous. We want all our forces to make the most of this new chance. No malingering!

The other remark is in the ear of Liberal journalism. Where is it in this matter? As we entered the meeting on Saturday a paper was handed to each of us at the door. It was a reprint of the article in the *Pall Mall Gazette*. Now, in the front rank sat, and later spoke, Mr. P. W. Clayden. Why is the *Daily News* mute? A journalist at a meeting is simply so many cubic feet of space occupied. If his ideas are worth anything, they are worth most in print. *Verb. sap.*

JUMPING JOSEPH.

(AN INTERVIEW WITH THE WORLD'S CHAMPION JUMPER.)

THE man who lays claim to the above title is at present performing twice daily at the Royal Aquarium. Mr. Darby's performances in the way of jumping may be classed under two heads—namely, "trick" jumping and long-distance jumping, and at both he seems equally proficient. As an instance of what he can do in the way of the former, I may mention that a part of his répertoire consists in placing an ordinary low-crowned hat on the stage in front of him, and exactly seven feet distant from his toes, when standing in position, feet close together and ready to make a spring, and having chalked the soles of his boots (light canvas shoes in this instance), he does his jump, and—*en passant*—unmistakably touches the said hat, as evidenced by the tell-tale chalk mark he leaves behind, and alights a foot or two further on. Not content with this, he next essays the same feat with this difference—that in place of an inanimate hat his attendant places his face in the same position; and he (Darby) jumps on and off the same in an equally expeditious and clever manner. There is no trickery about it in any way, for I was sufficiently near him (at the wings) to note clearly that both in the case of the hat and the man's face his feet did come in contact with them; and were any further proof wanting, there were the white marks left by the chalked shoes. His trick jumping is by no means confined to the above examples; but as it is as a long jumper that he has gained most notoriety, the two named will suffice for the purpose of illustration. In one important detail his get-up when engaged in distance jumps varies materially, and that is in the matter of boots; when doing "trick jumps" he wears (as stated) the lightest of shoes, but when long jumping these are replaced by stout wooden clogs, weighing somewhere about one pound each, and fitted heel and toe with a sharp iron rim to prevent slipping; in addition to this, for the most part, when jumping in public, he uses weights, dumb-bell shape, one in each hand, weighing 9½ lb. each, although on occasions he has increased the respective weight of each to as much as 12½ lb. On being asked how long he had practised jumping, he replied, with a smile and a very decided Worcestershire dialect, "Amoost so long as I can remember. I was always aat it when a bit of a kiddy, jumping against the other lads, and I could always beat them fair and easy."

"You began when you were at school, I suppose?"—"It was not much schooling I got," was his response; "ten months at the outside, and only half-time at that. I was at work nail-making, the same as my father, when I was seven years old; and then I used to pop out between whiles and have a jump with any lad there was about; but I didn't to say go in for it regularly till six or seven years ago, when I was getting a man, as you might say."

"But you are not much more than that now, surely," I put in. "You don't look above two or three and twenty."

"I was born on the 6th of August, 1861, and that makes me twenty-seven and a bit over, I fancy. Any way, I have been in training—running and jumping, but mostly jumping—any time these last six years, and have only been beaten (fair and square) once. I lost one other match, I admit, but I matched myself the same day to jump the man on equal terms, and then I beat him hollow. I thought I might as well take a regular engagement."

"Have you ever hurt yourself jumping, may I ask?"

"Not to any serious extent. I turned my ankle once in practising, but I had a match coming off in less than a fortnight, and I got all right before the day, and won the match into the bargain, so there was not much damage done."

"I suppose you find it necessary to restrict yourself in the matter of diet to a great extent."

"Not so much as you would imagine; I eat four good meals a day—breakfast about 9.30; dinner, one o'clock; tea, five o'clock; and supper (my heaviest meal of the day as a rule), about eleven o'clock, after I have done my last turn. My weight is 12 st. 4 lb. (jumping dress), and to this must be added my hand weights (19 lb.), which bring it up to 14 st. 9 lb.; and I don't think I have varied more than a pound or two since I began jumping (more or less for a livelihood) six years ago. Of course, I have no waste flesh about me; it is all solid muscle, as you can see, and the leg muscles have naturally developed pretty considerably."

"And yet you do not strike me as having a very big pair of calves."

"No, they are not; but I am willing to measure any man *above* the knee. Just try, will you?"

A tape is speedily produced, and on being passed round just above the knee-cap gives the size at no less than 18 inches, and increases in proportion higher up.

"Have you to be particular as to what you eat and drink?"

"Not very; I do not each much vegetables, my diet being chiefly a meat one, not too much cooked; and for liquids I confine myself mostly to port and sherry, drinking perhaps on an average two or three glasses of beer a day, not more."

Having already referred to Mr. Darby's "trick" performances, a word must be said as to his distance jumps. The stage at the Aquarium is admirably adapted for a display of the kind, being both wide and deep, and Mr. Darby puts its capabilities to the test by jumping over three lots of chairs (seven in each), representing a little over 30 ft., in three successive standing jumps; in addition to this he is announced to jump a bar 5 ft. in height (also standing), but as in this case he "takes off" from an up-ended brick 9 in. high, the actual distance jumped is only 4 ft. 3 in., but even this cannot be regarded as otherwise than a very fine performance by a man whose height does not exceed 5 ft. 8¼ in., and as he modestly observes, "it certainly does take doing"—an opinion in which I fancy most people will agree with him.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.—II.

BOOKS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

In "Three Greek Children" (Seeley and Co.), Professor Church gives, strung together by a slight story, a charming picture of Greek family life. His well-known scholarship is a guarantee for the accuracy of every detail, and it will interest English children to note, not only the differences, but the many points they have in common in their homes, their lessons, and their games with the little Greeks of more than two thousand years ago.

"Little Lady Clare." By Evelyn Everett-Green. (Blackie and Son. 2*s.* 6*d.*) This story of the gradual taming and softening of a haughty young aristocrat, full of resentment at the ancestral estates going to another branch of the family, and eventually her warm friendship with the offending heir, is very pleasantly told; but surely the language of the conversation is somewhat stilted for children of fourteen or so.

In "Storied Holidays," by E. S. Brooks (Blackie and Son, 3*s.* 6*d.*), we have a series of short stories ingeniously illustrating, by means of semi-historic episodes of various countries and ages, twelve popular holidays, such as Christmas Day, Valentine's Day, and Midsummer Eve, not forgetting, on behalf of our American cousins, Independence Day and Thanksgiving Day. The stories are nicely told and very prettily illustrated.

"Houses on Wheels." By Emma Marshall. (Nisbet & Co. 5*s.*) This is a pretty story for children of nine or ten, dealing with the sad lives of the poor children who wander through England in travelling vans, and on behalf of whom and their education Mr. George Smith, of Coalville, so often lifts up his voice. This touching story should serve to reinforce his arguments.

"In His Name." By E. E. Hale. (Seeley and Co.) This is the story of a single day, some seven hundred years ago. The little daughter of Jean Waldo—the brother of the famous Pierre Waldo, the head and originator of the pious sect of the "poor men of Lyons," better known as the Waldenses—has been poisoned by some drug of herbs, prepared by her mother to keep the child in good health. The young Florentine doctor who is called in doubts whether he is able to cope with the illness, and the child's father sends in despair to John of Lugio, a learned priest and a man of medicine, and one of the excommunicated Christians who gave up all their earthly possessions and lived a life of toil among their co-religionists in the valleys of Piedmont. The long ride into the hills in search of Lugio, when every difficulty vanishes, and every door is opened at the pass-word of the Waldenses, "In His Name," is very interesting, especially so as the author has wisely abstained from any remarks in which his juvenile readers, fastidious as they are, might see an attempt at "preaching." Mr. Jacomb Hood's illustrations, which are kept very close to the text, are an additional attraction.

"John Standish," by the Rev. E. Gilliat (Seeley and Co.), is another good historical tale, in which such well-known personages as Chaucer, Gower, Langland, Wat Tyler, and many others live and move and have their being, having, as it were, stepped out of their heavy historical frames to move about like other ordinary human beings in order to play a part in the harrowing of London. The author is a capital story-teller, and his chuckle over, for instance, Langham's frugal-minded lady complaining of the "making, and the composing, and the copying, and the bettering" of the literary labours of the author of "The Vision of Piers Plowman" is as effective as is his brief account of the burial of the poet's son, at which the father "the burden-singer at St. Paul's" tries to sing the dirge over the grave of his boy. As a good tale, brightly told, and accurate as to historical events and personages. "John Standish" can be thoroughly recommended.

"Gilly Flower." By the author of "Honour Bright." (Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co.) The fact that it is the authoress of "Honour Bright" who presents the story to her young friends will be an abundant recommendation to all girls who have read that delightful book. Gill Flower and her vivacious brothers and friends are the chief personages in "Gilly Flower," which is as bright and interesting a story of the manifold incidents and accidents of the everyday life of boys and girls as any one can wish for.

"The Schoolmaster and his Son." By K. H. Caspari. (Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co.) An old German village schoolmaster, of the seventeenth century, must be forgiven if he tells his otherwise interesting tale of the Thirty Years' War with a very strong sprinkling of religious phrases and sentiments. But what in a latter-day teacher of the young would be cant and hypocrisy, is only the natural sentiment of a peaceable rustic round whom have surged the waves of the long war. The incidents which schoolmaster Gast, of the little town of Sommerhausen, describes in his sketch are bright and life-like, and very thrilling notwithstanding the simple language in which they are related.

SOME ILLUSTRATED "GIFT BOOKS."

Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. furnish a gift-book for the drawing-room table in "Shakespeare's Songs and Sonnets, illustrated by Sir John Gilbert," a smaller reproduction of a book originally published in 1862, and a curious illustration, it may be remarked, of the strides which chromolithography and book-illustration have made since that time. For ourselves we cannot profess any great liking for these volumes of selections.

Mr. Andrew Lang makes a little material go a long way. Large print, a vast margin, thick paper, some uncommonly bad illustrations, and a slight fairy tale, go to make up the handsome volume entitled "The Gold of Fairnilee." (Arrowsmith, Bristol.)

"Log-books: Notes through Life," by Elisabeth A. Little (Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.), is a handsome oblong volume, apparently of American origin, each page exhibiting some verses about the sea, adorned by ingeniously knotted rope borders and little sketches of ships. The rope decoration is very skilfully and accurately executed, every knot having its correct name written against it, so that one might almost learn from it how to make a "triple Martha Walker," a "Limerick bend," or a "flat Turk's head" knot. Considering what fine passages about the sea might have been chosen from Tennyson, Matthew Arnold, and Clough, it seems a pity that for the most part trivial verses by obscure poetasters should illustrate this book.

At Home and Abroad.

The case stated by Mr. Vaughan in connection with the assault upon Borgia in Trafalgar-square is to be taken up. The committee of defence of open-air meetings in London met on Saturday afternoon at the National Liberal Club, and decided to instruct Mr. Dillon Lewis in the matter.

A large quantity of Snider ammunition was recently sent from Peshawur to Cabul.

A severe earthquake shock occurred in Sikkim on the 9th inst.

The State Council of the Canton of Vaud quashed the verdict against Miss Sterling, the Salvationist, who has been set at liberty.

A telegram from Bonn announces the death of Professor Delius, the well-known Shakespearian commentator.

It is doubtful whether the Chinese Ampa has yet left Lhassa. A force of 1,000 men will garrison Chumbi, and 500 will be stationed in Gantok.

Ishak Khan is at Kurcha, near Tajora. He has a large military body-guard, and is reported to have collected a large amount of treasure and to possess a very considerable amount of property.

Last evening the members of the German Athenæum in London entertained at dinner a number of distinguished English actors, at their club house in Mortimer-street, W.

The official returns of the Queen's Edinburgh Rifle Brigade for the year which closed on the 31st ult., show that the corps has the large number of 2,404 officers and men on the roll, of whom 2,380 are efficients.

The Brighton Wimbledon committee have given notice of their intention to apply to Parliament for powers to acquire land and erect permanent rifle ranges at West Blatchington, adjoining the Brighton and Dyke Railway.

There are 900 Italians entered as exhibitors at next year's Universal Exhibition in Paris. An area of 2,000 square metres has been allotted to them. They desire, however, to have 6,000; but their request cannot be entertained, as there is now no more space to be had.

The Maori football team were on Saturday afternoon victorious in a match against the county of Cumberland by two goals and four tries to two tries. Oxford University defeated Blackheath, and Richmond was beaten by Cambridge University.

An alarming fire broke out one night in the Viceregal camp at Patiala by which Lady Helen Blackwood's tent was destroyed. The flames were, however, got under control by one o'clock in the morning. No wind was blowing at the time, otherwise the whole camp would have been destroyed.

The value has been declared at £21,908 of the personal estate of the late Robert Savill, of Cliff Villa, Watford, who died on the 6th ult., aged eighty-one years. He was assistant-secretary from 1849 to 1872, of the London and North Western Railway Company.

The funeral of the Baroness Willoughby De Eresby took place on Saturday, when her remains were placed in the family vault in Normanton church, beside those of her husband, the first Lord Aveland. The chief mourners were Lord Aveland, her son, and Admiral Sir George Tryon, her son-in-law.

The large cotton mill in Marsh-lane, Preston, occupied by Mr. Brotherton, was totally destroyed by fire on Saturday, the damage being estimated at from £35,000 to £40,000. About six hundred workpeople are thrown out of employment.

Princess Louise has consented to inaugurate the newly formed North London branch of the Recreative Evening Schools' Association, at a meeting to be held at Highbury Athenæum on the 1st of December. The Princess is president of the parent association.

At Southwark police-court, on Saturday, an old woman, her daughter, and two other females were sent to prison for six months each, with hard labour, for robbing a foreign merchant, whom one of them had inveighed into a low house in the Waterloo-road.

Temporary premises for the purposes of the Clerkenwell free library have been secured at 19, Tysoe-street, Exmouth-street, and will be formally opened to-morrow. It is believed that when the new "spur" street, from Holborn Town Hall to the Angel, now in course of construction, is completed, an eligible site for the library building may be had fronting the new thoroughfare.

A large assemblage gathered yesterday afternoon in Victoria Park to commemorate the anniversary of the Trafalgar-square disturbances and of the execution of the Chicago Anarchists. Mr. Cuninghame Graham, M.P., Prince Krapotkin, and others spoke, and resolutions denouncing the authorities in London and Chicago were passed.

Mr. Arnold Morley, M.P., presided over a large gathering at the Lambeth Baths on Saturday evening, when the twenty-seventh series of winter meetings was opened. He said we ought to be ashamed that all our principal colonies were ahead of us in having a direct popular veto on the drink traffic. Alluding to the pending School Board contest, he hoped that electors would vote only for candidates who would carry out in full the policy of the Education Act.

Mr. Justice Mathew on Saturday declared a bill of sale invalid, on the ground of a misdescription of the occupation of the grantor. The gentleman referred to said he attended races for pleasure, and backed horses; but he denied that he was a betting man, remarking that a betting man made a living out of laying money against horses, whereas the "business" of backing horses, which he embarked on, turned out a loss.

The trial of M. Numa Gilly, for libelling M. Andrieux, took place at Nimes on Saturday. The defendant had charged all the members of the Budget Committee of the Chamber with corruption. The court ruled that only evidence pertinent to the prosecution by M. Andrieux could be received. Thereupon the defendant refused to offer any evidence, and the prosecutor withdrew from the prosecution.

A young widow, named Eldridge, was charged, at the Westminster police-court on Saturday with cruelty to her little girl, by compelling her to go to bed with the corpse of her father. The prisoner has already suffered one month's imprisonment for being drunk on the occasion in question. The magistrate said he had never heard of a more heartless outrage on a young child, and he sent the woman for trial.

Lord George Hamilton, M.P., opened on Saturday a new Conservative Hall at Hornsey, and in the course of an address said that Mr. Gladstone was ever ready to incur a future risk in order to obtain a temporary advantage. The Government had not only to fight Mr. Gladstone's policy, but also its pillars, which were obstruction in Parliament and lawlessuess out of doors. The great object of the Government had been to secure, not merely the social and national, but the Imperial unity of the Empire.

THE DEFENCE OF OUR INDIAN EMPIRE.

LORD DUFFERIN'S REPLY TO THE NATIVE PRINCES.

A declaration of the policy of the Government towards the chiefs offering to assist in the defence of India was made on Friday at the Durbar held at Patiala in presence of three Punjaub Princes and many generals. Lord Dufferin said that the feeling shown by the feudatory chiefs, both Hindus and Mahommedans, three years ago when war was threatened, could not be misunderstood. He was convinced that their attitude in the crisis not only created a favourable impression in England, but produced a very striking effect in other countries. The Government had resolved not to accept the pecuniary assistance so liberally tendered, but they would enlist the co-operation in other ways of those chiefs with specially fine fighting material at their command.

They would be asked to reorganize a portion of their armies, making them thoroughly efficient, while each would remain a purely State force, recruited in the territories of its Chief and serving within them. Their troops would be gradually raised to such a pitch of efficiency as would enable the Imperial Government to use them as part of its available resources to meet external danger. British officers, with their headquarters in British territory, would be appointed to advise and instruct the Chiefs, and native military drill instructors would also be provided. Breechloaders would be presented to them, while each Punjaub Chief would receive one battery of four guns. The Government would in no case ask a native State to maintain larger forces than would afford support, or would it take undue advantage of its loyalty.

The Viceroy concluded by saying, "I trust the chiefs selected will in any case regard the acceptance of their offers as an honourable distinction, while those whose armies it is not found possible to utilize in some manner will understand that if they cannot usefully contribute to the fighting strength of the Empire, they can in other ways render services equally meritorious and equally sure to win the approval of the Queen and Empress." The speech of his Excellency was loudly applauded.

THE BLOCKADE AT ZANZIBAR STILL DELAYED.

SAFETY OF THE LADIES OF THE MAGILA MISSION.

The correspondent of the *Times* at Zanzibar telegraphs :—All the ladies of the Magila mission have arrived safely in Zanzibar, accompanied by three of the Brethren. The remainder of the staff are staying at Magila with the Bishop, who experienced great danger and difficulty at Pangani, owing to the hostility of the coast tribes, now arrayed against European influences. The blockade is still delayed. The Sultan, who is ill, has not yet published a proclamation announcing a blockade. The anti-German agitation on the German coast exhibits signs of increasing bitterness, and is likely to extend to all Europeans. The German naval garrison has again been withdrawn from Bagamoyo, owing to the prevalence of severe fever. The French mission there, with signal charity, is feeding daily 800 refugees, who have been driven from the town by fear. The merchants absolutely refuse to re-establish themselves on the coast. The mission steamer *Henry Wright* was fired on yesterday at Saadani.

Colonel Euan Smith, the British Consul-General, has issued a stringent proclamation forbidding all British subjects to contract with slaveowners for the supply of slave labour or to employ slaves through their owners in any way.

THE DIFFICULTIES IN THE SOUDAN.

REPORTED ADVANCE OF DERVISHES.

Two black battalions are to be sent from Assouan to Suakin, and these, with the battalions already there, will form a fighting brigade of blacks. Half the Welsh regiment, with the necessary detachments of the Commissariat, Ordnance, and Hospital services, in all about 500 men, will leave Cairo on Thursday for Assouan.

It is reported from Korosko that the dervishes are moving across the desert from Abu Hamad. This news coincides with a previous report, to the effect that they were going to make simultaneous attacks on Korosko and Wady Halfa. I am unwilling to adopt an alarmist tone, says a *Times* correspondent, but I feel bound to repeat that every independent military authority concurs in the opinion, already frequently expressed, that the entire military force of the country stands at a dangerously low level—in fact, at the extreme minimum consistent with safety.

The position of affairs at Suakin remains unchanged. The rifle fire from the trenches is still very heavy, but that from the field-pieces is less troublesome. The reinforcements have not yet arrived, but they will, it is expected, reach Suakin shortly, and until they arrive no advance will be made with a view to dislodge the enemy.

FRENCH JOURNALISTS EXPELLED FROM BERLIN.

The police authorities have expelled from Prussia two French journalists named MM. Latapieh and D'Oriot, who edited a publication entitled *La Correspondance de Berlin*, the reason officially assigned for this step being that they had made themselves obnoxious. The journalists appealed to the French Embassy, but in the absence of M. Herbette, the Ambassador, the Chargé d'Affaires declined to intervene officially in the matter, as the act was that of a foreign police. He promised, however, to use his influence to obtain some further grace for them in point of time. The supposed reason for the expulsion is that the *Correspondance*, which is issued to various Freneh and other foreign journals, circulated statements, regarded as obnoxious, in reference to high Court circles.

CELEBRATION OF DUTCH INDEPENDENCE.

Saturday being the seventy-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the national independence, festivities of various kinds, organized by private initiative, have taken place in several of the principal cities of the Netherlands, notably in Rotterdam, where there was a grand allegorical procession with representations of historical episodes and personages signalized in the Dutch annals. Prominent among these was the figure of Prince William of Orange, who reigned in England as King William III.

A real luxury for Breakfast, Luncheon, or Supper, FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA. Also a valuable diet for the invalid and delicate. Thomas Wilson, Esq., L.R.C.P., says :—"I have no hesitation in pronouncing your Concentrated Cocoa the best I ever used. It possesses a rich and delicious chocolate flavour. I believe it to be highly nutritious and easily assimilated, and will have great pleasure in recommending it to my friends and patients." To secure this article, ask for "FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA."

SECRET TREATY BETWEEN RUSSIA AND COREA.

The Chinese Government (says a correspondent of the *Times* at Tientsin have received information to the effect that a secret treaty has been concluded between Russia and Corea, which provides for Corea being placed under Russian protection.

Beyond this bare report, says the *Times* in a leading article, nothing is known. The Chinese, of course, may be mistaken, but the tenour of the telegram seems to indicate that they entertain no doubt that such a treaty has been concluded, and the news is in harmony with recent events. The other day we published a *résumé* of a pamphlet by Mr. Denny, the Foreign Adviser to the King of Corea. In this pamphlet, which, under the circumstances of the case, almost amounted to a manifesto of the Corean Government, a violent attack was made upon the Chinese Government for its recent behaviour towards Corea. The hostility indicated by this manifesto may well have found its outlet in an alliance with China's formidable neighbour, and it is remarkable that a short time ago the Grand Duke Alexander Michaelovitch was visiting Corea, and was reported to be received with great cordiality by the King. The news, therefore, bears the imprint of probability. When it is remembered that China claims a suzerainty over Corea, which the Chinese have repeatedly asserted by force of arms, we may appreciate the serious nature of the report.

THE TREATMENT OF THE ZULU CHIEFS.

ALLEGED VINDICTIVENESS BY THE OFFICIALS.

A correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* at Durban says :—It is reported that Dinizulu is to be sent to Etshowe for trial. This is a somewhat cruel return for the confidence reposed by the rebellious chieftain in the Natal Governor, to whom Dinizulu surrendered in order to escape the bitter prejudice of the Zululand officials, whose incompetency was the chief cause of the recent disorders. I have authority for stating that Dinizulu would have surrendered to Sir Arthur Havelock a week ago if he had been permitted to do so. There is an evident tendency on the part of the authorities to rush the trials at Etshowe, notwithstanding the well-grounded and reasonable appeals of the prisoners for delay.

LATER.—The Natal Supreme Court on Saturday granted a fifteen days' interdict against the removal of Dinizulu to Zululand, which the Governor can move to have set aside on Tuesday. Dinizulu expresses a wish to remain in Natal. Sir Arthur Havelock will probably be summoned to Etshowe as a witness on behalf of Dinizulu. Evidence will also be adduced showing how the officials worried the native chiefs into resistance. There is a very marked contrast here between the pity felt for the prisoners by the general public and the vindictiveness displayed in the matter by the officials.

THE BLACK MOUNTAIN EXPEDITION.

All the troops constituting the Hazara field force have returned to British territory. General M'Queen, in his farewell orders, states that the Hassanzai, Akazai, and Pariari Sayads and the Jikariwals have tendered full submission. The Machai Peak, Thakot, Pokal, and the principal villages of the Allais were visited by the force, while the construction of roads along the Indus valley to the Chagarzai border, and to Thakot from the Agror valley, will afford ample scope for the rapid movement of troops in the future. He congratulates the troops on their exemplary conduct, and the soldierly spirit exhibited throughout the campaign. General Channer returns to his command at Julinder. He was the moving spirit of the campaign, and earned universal approval by his splendid dash and energy and the inexhaustible fertility of his resources in every emergency. The Khyberee levies exhibited such fine soldierly qualities, and proved such invaluable allies for mountain warfare of this description, that it is strongly urged that regiments should be formed from the tribes.

TESTING THE VIRTUES OF THE NEW WINES.

Now that the vintage is over (writes a Vienna correspondent of the *Telegraph*) in the wine-growing districts near the capital, the Viennese flock out in hundreds to the environs in order to test the virtues of the new wines. During last week's vintage festivities of a national character were held in many parts of the country, the town folk being welcomed by the peasantry with every manifestation of goodwill. The day set apart for the worship of Bacchus opens with a thanksgiving service at the village church, where the natives congregate in their picturesque national dress, with yellow vine-leaves and bunches of grapes jauntily stuck in their hats.

At the neighbouring village of Perchtoldsdorf the vintage festivities just held were conducted on a larger scale than usual, to solemnize the b centenary of the "Retreat of the Turks." From daybreak salutes were fired from the surrounding vine-clad heights until the church bells summoned the villagers and their guests to mass. During the day itinerant musicians followed the strangers to the cellars, where the new wine was tasted copiously. In the evening there was dancing, and more home-grown wine was imbibed, the entertainment lasting till the small hours of the morning.

FEARFUL FAMILY TRAGEDY AT BRADFORD.

Last night, shortly before midnight, the Bradford police were informed of a shocking wife murder and suicide which had occurred in Manningham, a suburb of Bradford. At two o'clock yesterday morning the inhabitants of a house in Church-street heard a woman's cries, accompanied by a crash of glass, proceeding from a house occupied by James Arthur Kirkby and his wife and two little children. No notice was taken of the disturbance at the time, and nothing more transpired until about nine o'clock last night. About that time some of the neighbours heard a child crying, and as the door was locked and nobody appeared to be within, suspicion was aroused. A policeman was called, and he broke open the door. On entering the house he found a baby lying dead in a cradle, and on mounting the stairs he found the dead body of Kirkby suspended from the ceiling. Proceeding into the bedroom he next discovered the dead body of Mrs. Kirkby lying on the bed. She had evidently been strangled, as also had the infant. Kirkby is said to have been the driver of a tramcar, but latterly had worked at the silk mills of S. C. Lister and Co., Manningham. No cause can be assigned for his acts.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged

FOURTH EDITION.

TO-DAY'S TITTLE TATTLE.

The meeting of the Imperial widows Victoria, mother and daughter, at Port Victoria this morning, is one of the most touching incidents in the history of the Royal family. It seems but the other day since the Princess Royal's portraits were in the *Illustrated London News* on the eve of her wedding. But between this and then lie how many years filled with the graves of how many lofty hopes!

***

No one can ever forget that moment on Jubilee Day in the Abbey which was of all others that fraught with the most human interest. All the Princesses had kissed the Queen when the service was over. They kissed her and passed. Her eldest daughter kissed, and was not allowed to pass. The Queen embraced her daughter, returning her salute with an affection all the warmer because of the death that threatened—not in vain. Then the daughter kissed her mother a second time and passed. Every one read about it in the papers next day, but to those of us who saw it from the screen in the organ loft in the Abbey it was a sight never to be forgotten.

***

Mr. Lowell leaves England for America to-morrow. I am glad to hear that during his stay in this country his health has materially improved. His stay at Whitby relieved him of much of his troubles from his old enemy the gout, and the pleasant visit which he paid to the Leslie Stephens at St. Ives helped him still further on the road to health.

***

The raciness which was promised by a racing burlesque attracted some very smart people to the Strand Theatre on Saturday night. Lord Rosebery occupied a stage box, and his neighbours were Lord and Lady Charles Beresford. The Jubilee Plunger, who was in the stalls, seemed to enjoy the very pointed reference to him immensely.

***

Mr. Gladstone was the subject of a demonstration on a small scale on Saturday. About the middle of the day he was noticed walking down St. Martin's-lane, where a contingent of larrikins and urchins at once formed themselves into a body-guard, and accompanied him until he was lost sight of in Parliament-street. Mr. Gladstone looked in the best of health and spirits, acknowledged all salutations with evident pleasure, and walked with a rapid stride and springing motion which would have done credit to an athlete in his prime.

***

It is the birthday of another "grand old man" to-day. This is M. de Lesseps, who is as conspicuous for his defiance of old age as Mr. Gladstone himself. Which piece of "separation," I wonder, would a good Unionist think the more hopeless for an old man to undertake—Home Rule or the Panama Canal? But in any case, while Mr. Gladstone is still short of seventy-nine, M. de Lesseps is to-day eighty-three.

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Mr. W. Saunders has recruited the energies exhausted by Trafalgar-square by a pleasant trip to Mexico. He returns with greatly improved health. He crossed the Atlantic in the German Lloyd's steamer *Eider*, and had Henry George as his fellow-passenger.

***

Mr. Henry George, who is staying at the Westminster Palace Hotel, has arrived at the very nick of time. Mr. Balfour, or his *alter ego*, introduces the Land Purchase Bill to-night, and Mr. George will help to rally the opposition of the Land Nationalizers to a bill which does the right thing in the wrong way.

***

The following comes to me as the true story of Sir Charles Warren and the bloodhounds. The owner of the animals, before he would allow them to be used, applied to the authorities for an assurance that he should be compensated in case of their injury, a by no means impossible contingency if they had been let go in a crowded London thoroughfare. He estimated the value of the dogs at £100. Considering how doubtful it was under the circumstances that the experiment would be successful, the authorities declined to pledge themselves unconditionally to the payment of so large a sum. Thereupon the owner withdrew his offer. During the last few days, however, the matter has been reopened, and an arrangement has been come to by the simple expedient of insuring the lives of the hounds, which are now lodged on the premises of a well-known dog-fancier in Pimlico ready for use in case of need.

***

Apropos of Sunday newspapers, nobody can understand why the conductors of the *Sunday Times*, which is an enterprising paper, considerably larger than the *Observer*, and maintained with more spirit, should allow its fourpenny rival to have the monopoly of reporting at length important political speeches. I for one should greatly prefer the *Sunday Times* at a penny to the *Observer* at fourpence, but unfortunately (and this is a matter of frequent recurrence) the only matter of political interest yesterday, Lord Randolph Churchill's speech, was given at length in the *Observer*, occupying four columns, while in the *Sunday Times* it was cut down to a column and a half. This neglect of opportunities by its rival alone enables the *Observer* to live at the extravagant price charged, its political views being of an antiquated type not very different from those which lately proved of such doubtful advantage to an evening contemporary under the editorship of Mr. Frederick Greenwood.

ARRIVAL OF THE EMPRESS FREDERICK.

THE MEETING WITH HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

The Empress Frederick and her three youngest daughters, attended by Count Seckendorff and their Ladies in Waiting, left Berlin at a quarter before eight o'clock yesterday morning for England viâ Flushing. The Emperor William accompanied his mother to the station, where he took a cordial and affectionate leave of the Royal travellers. Sir Edward and Lady Ermyntrude Malet and the whole staff of the British Embassy were also among those present on the platform on the Empress's departure. Before leaving for England the Empress had all the memorials of her late consort conveyed from Friedrichskron to her Berlin palace. In the rooms in which he was born and died inscriptions are to be placed, and a cross is to be inlaid in the floor to indicate the spot on which his deathbed stood.

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Flushing in the Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert* at half-past eight yesterday morning. Shortly before ten o'clock in the evening the Empress Frederick and her daughters reached Flushing; they were met by the Prince of Wales, and immediately embarked on board the yacht, which left at twenty minutes past eleven for Port Victoria. Sheerness was reached at 8.30 this morning, and Port Victoria a little later. Here the Empress and her brother, the Prince of Wales, awaited the arrival of the Queen from Windsor. Salutes were fired as the yacht passed the Garrison Point by the *Duncan*, flagship of the Commander-in-Chief at the Nore, and by the Royal Artillery from the Gun Wharf Battery. A guard of honour composed of the men belonging to the Chatham Division of the Royal Marine Light Infantry was stationed on the pier.

Meanwhile the Queen was travelling from Windsor Castle to meet her widowed daughter. Her Majesty left the Castle shortly after ten o'clock, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, Princess Louise, Prince Henry of Battenberg, and the Court suite. Travelling by the South Western Railway the train arrived at Waterloo Junction at 11 A.M. Upon the station platform were the Duke of Cambridge and Count Hatzfeldt, besides a large number of ladies and gentlemen, including Lord Brabourne, M. Gennadius, the Greek Minister, General Bateson, Mr. Watkin, and others. On the train drawing up, the Duke of Cambridge entered the Royal carriage, and Count Hatzfeldt went into one in which were several members of her Majesty's suite. The train was then taken in charge by Mr. Myles Fenton general manager of the South Eastern Railway, and Lord Brabourne, Colonel Surtees, and Mr. Watkin, directors of the company, travelled by the train to Port Victoria. Her Majesty and her two daughters appeared remarkably cheerful and well, and seemed much pleased when the occupants of a third class compartment of a train which had drawn up alongside raised their hats and bowed respectfully to the Royal travellers.

The Royal train reached Port Victoria about noon, and the meeting between the Queen and the Empress Frederick was a most affecting one. The Queen, who was looking extremely well, was attired in black, and all the attendant suite were likewise in mourning costumes. The Royal party proceeded at once to Windsor.

WHO IS TO BE THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER?

THE DIFFICULTY WITH MR. MATTHEWS.

The difficulty of finding a successor to Sir Charles Warren, great in any case owing to the state of disorganization and demoralization which prevail in the police force, is aggravated by the retention of Mr. Matthews as Home Secretary. It is currently reported in Scotland-yard that Sir Charles Warren's post has been offered to at least two eminent persons of high rank, and curtly declined by them on the ground that, although they might be willing to undertake the responsible and onerous duties of Chief Commissioner, under other circumstances, they could not think of serving under Mr. Matthews.

There is stated to be no truth in the story to which we referred on Friday that the late Chief Commissioner of Police in Calcutta is likely to be appointed to the vacant post.

Mr. Monro is still held in official circles to have the best chance, notwithstanding his disinclination to accept a post for which he is physically incapacitated.

The story at Scotland-yard is that the appointment has been offered to Mr. Baggallay, the stipendiary at West Ham, who, it will be remembered, came into pretty smart collision with Sir Charles Warren over Constable Bloy. The appointment of Mr. Baggallay would not be unpopular in the police force.

MR. BRIGHT'S CONDITION.—LATEST.

Mr. Bright seems to have been somewhat better yesterday, but we have very serious news from Rochdale to-day. The distinguished patient passed a restless night, and was very weak and exhausted this morning. A bulletin issued later, however, states that there is no change in Mr. Bright's condition.

"THE DEAN'S DAUGHTER" AT THE ST. JAMES'S.

Messrs. Steadman and Van Praagh, solicitors, write:—We shall be much obliged to you if, in fairness to our client Mr. F. C. Philips, you will allow us to contradict the statement made in your advertisement column to the effect that "The Dean's Daughter," of which he and Mr. Sydney Grundy are the joint authors, has been withdrawn from the St. James's Theatre owing to its "having failed to attract." As we have commenced proceedings in respect of the matter the real reasons for the withdrawal of "The Dean's Daughter" will before long be fully discussed before the public.

SUDDEN DEATH IN A CHAPEL.

A case of very sudden death occurred last night at a chapel at Hall-end, Attleborough, Warwickshire. Among the congregation was a married woman named Esther Susan Green, twenty-seven years of age, and while the service was proceeding she suddenly fell back and expired.

ITALY AND ZANZIBAR.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

ZANZIBAR, Nov. 19.—The Italian flag was rehoisted at the Italian Consulate here to day, and was saluted by the Sultan. Friendly relations have now been renewed between Italy and Zanzibar.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB.

To-day Mr. Troutbeck held an inquiry at the Charing-cross Hospital into the circumstances attending the death of George Henry Clark, aged thirty-six years, a porter at the National Liberal Club, which occurred on the 15th inst. It appeared that on Thursday another employé at the club heard a peculiar noise in the coffee-room, and on proceeding thither he found Clark lying on the floor insensible, having evidently struck his head in falling. The floor, it was stated, was very slippery, and the deceased had fallen on a previous occasien. Mr. Braine, the house surgeon, stated that the deceased had sustained a fracture of the skull, from which he eventually died. This fall was in all probability due to a fit. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

THE ACCIDENT TO A MAIL STEAMER.

The Royal Mail steamship *Athenian* left Southampton at noon yesterday for Madeira direct, to bring on the passengers and mails ex-*Tartar*. She is due at Madeira on Thursday, the 22nd, and will return thence immediately, and should reach Southampton on Monday, the 26th inst. The *Tartar* arrived at Madeira yesterday afternoon, and will there await the arrival of the *Athenian*.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The November session of this court was opened this morning by the Lord Mayor, who was accompanied on the bench by the Recorder, the Common Serjeant, Alderman Sir T. Dakin, Alderman Knill, Alderman Tyler, Alderman and Sheriff Gray, Sheriff Newton, the Under Sheriffs, &c. The number of prisoners set down in the calendar is 100, together with 23 on whom judgment was respited from last session. These included attempted murder 3, manslaughter 3, misdemeanour 13, perjury 2, robbery with violence 5, larceny 19, burglary 12, housebreaking 9, and coining cases 5.

A LIGHT SENTENCE ON A CITY CLERK.

Edward Falconer, fifty-eight, late chief clerk to the Economic Life Assurance Society, and who pleaded guilty last session to embezzling various sums of money, the property of his masters, was brought up for judgment. Mr. Poland informed the court that the total amount of the prisoner's defalcations had been ascertained to be over £8,000, and that his salary was £600 a year. Mr. Besley pleaded that the prisoner had not speculated on the Stock Exchange or betted on racehorses. The money had gone because of his heavy family expenses. The Recorder said he would take the latter facts into consideration, and would only impose a sentence of eighteen months' hard labour.

"HUMAN REMAINS, SALTED DOWN."

A strange story of the sea was told at Liverpool on Saturday by a ship-wrecked seaman of the iron barque *Glenmore*, of Carrickfergus, which left Maryport, Cumberland, for Buenos Ayres, with a cargo of railway iron. Mr. James Morgan, the second mate, described how the vessel was wrecked between Staten Island and Tierra del Fuego, and the great privations that the crew endured. Ultimately they reached St. John's, where there is a lighthouse maintained by the Argentine Republic, and from which, after more sufferings, they finally were taken on the 15th of September last.

Morgan added:—"During our stay on the island a story was told to us by the lighthouse people, which I simply repeat. About eighteen months before our arrival there the crews of two vessels landed on Staten Island, about twenty-five miles from the lighthouse, and were apparently ignorant of its existence—indeed, it has only been established about five years. After an interval of some weeks, sixteen of the thirty-two arrived at the lighthouse with a report that the others had died. They were taken off by the relief steamer. The sequel is that shortly before our arrival the lighthouse people, exploring the region of the reported landing of these men, found a little above high water level three or four beef barrels, which on examination were found to contain human remains, salted down. I hesitate to say what the inference must be."

ROWING AT THE UNIVERSITIES.

The president of the O.U.B.C., assisted by Mr. Guy Nickalls, has been very busy since the University Fours, with the result that the Trial Eights seem likely to be much above the average. There are more heavy men in practice than usual, and their style is generally good. On Saturday the two crews did good work, No. 1 coached by Mr. Nickalls and No. 2 by Mr. How, both coaches having mounts. The first crew, stroked by W. F. Smith, of New College, includes such good men as Kent, Fothergill, F. C. Drake, and Rowe; while the second, stroked by Douglas, of Christ Church, includes Lord Ampthill, E. H. Robertson, and A. P. Parker. The race will be rowed at Moulsford on the 29th inst at 3 P.M.

The Cambridge trials, to be rowed on the 1st prox., are also going well. They are stroked by Coombes, of St. John's, and Storrs, of Emmanuel; but as it is said that J. C. Gardner will stroke the eight at Putney, their merits are less important than they sometimes are. The crews each did a lot of rowing on Saturday, and during a three-mile spin to Baitsbite several of the men showed fine condition already. Muttlebury and Orde were the coaches.

Mr. Balfour is suffering from a chill, with slight fever, and has to keep his bed. He will not attend the House of Commons to-night.

Mdme. Adelina Patti and Mr. Nicolini arrived from Craig-y-Nos Castle last evening, and were received on their arrival at Paddington by Mr. Edward Hall.

The Earl of Rosslyn is still in a very critical condition at Lady Anne's House, Stamford.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, who have been on a visit to the Queen at Windsor Castle since Saturday evening, returned to London this morning.

With reference to the financial difficulties of Mr. Franklin S. King, referred to in our issue of Saturday, we are requested to state that the assets exceed the liabilities by £10,725.

The Northern Celts met in force on Saturday night in Bloomsbury Hall, Hart-street, to hear their countryman, Bailie Stuart Inverness, discourse, under the auspices of the Caledonian Christian Club, on "Highlanders, from the Cradle to the Grave." The lecture was very entertaining. Dr. Macdonald, M.P., occupied the chair.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

HOME RAILWAYS, FOREIGN STOCKS, AND AMERICANS ALL DULL. QUOTATIONS LOWER.

The supply of loanable capital in the open market is still larger than can be profitably employed. The demand for money this morning is slight, and though 1½ per cent. is the nominal quotation for day-to-day loans lenders are glad to accept anything they can get. The discount rate for three months' bank paper is no firmer than it was at the latter end of last week, most of the business in three months' bank paper being put through at 3⅛ per cent. The demand for gold in the open market for Germany still continues, and it is fully anticipated that a further considerable sum will be taken for the Argentine Republic this week, but operators find themselves powerless to advance rates much in face of the large balances at their disposal.

There is little disposition to enter into transactions freely on the Stock Exchange, and the changes in price are slight. The uncertain condition of the Money Market continues to adversely affect markets generally, and the tendency in almost all directions is to lower quotations. Consols are again weak, "Goschens" showing a reduction of ⅛. In the English Railway market Hull and Barnsley stock has been inquired for, and exhibits an appreciable advance, but in other directions stock has been offered, more especially North Eastern and North British Deferred. In the Foreign department, too, the variations are unfavourable, though they are in all cases slight. American Railroad securities have quite lost the firmer tendency noticeable at the opening, and are now in many cases below Friday's closing prices. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are almost lifeless, and Mexican Railway issues are quiet. The Copper Mining market is flat, especially Rio Tinto and Mason and Barry. Nitrate Railway shares have been offered.

Subscriptions are invited for the share and debenture capital of the Mexican Mineral Railway Company (Limited), which is formed to construct and work a mineral railway about thirteen miles in length, running from the neighbourhood of Palmarejo, Mexico, to Zapote, on the Chinapao river, and also to construct a conduit about ten miles in length to supply water power to the stamp mills to be erected at Zapote by the Palmarejo Mining Company. The capital consists of £75,000 in £10 shares, and 2,500 seven per cent. mortgage debentures of £20 each.

The following are the latest changes compared with Friday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Higher*: Hull and Barnsley ¾. *Receded*: North Eastern ½, North British Deferred ½, the Preferred ⅛, Great Eastern ⅜, North Western ¼, Great Western and Midland ⅛.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced*: French Four and a Half per Cents. ¼. *Declined*: Egyptian State Domain ¼, the Daira ⅛, the Unified 1-16, Hungarian Gold ¼, Turkish 1871 ¼, Argentine Hard Dollars ¼, Peruvian Five and Six per Cents. and Russian 1873 ⅛, and Spanish Four per Cents. 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—*Risen*: Union Pacific ⅜, Erie shares, Norfolk and Western Preference, Mexican Central Bonds, and Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¼, and New York Central ⅛. *Fallen*: Louisville and Nashville, and Milwaukee and St. Paul ⅜, Central Pacific, Denver Ordinary and Preference, Wabash Preference and Mortgage ¼, Lake Shore shares and Atlantic First Mortgage ⅛.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher*: Mexican Ordinary ¼. *Lower*: Nitrate shares 1⅛, Lombardo-Venetian 3-16, Varna Obligations ⅛, and Canadian Pacific ⅛.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Higher*: Imperial Ottoman Bank 1-16. *Fallen*: Rio Tinto 1⅛, Mason and Barry ⅜, Namaqua ¼, De Beers 1-16, and Primitiva Nitrate ¼.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—There is a fair business without change in prices. Sales 10,000 bales. Futures firm at one to two points advance.

Letters of allotment and regret for the debentures and shares of the Bergvik Company (Limited) have been posted.

The directors of the Montevideo Gas Company (Limited) have declared an interim dividend of 12s. per share, tax free, in respect of the half-year ended June 30, being at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. Warrants will be posted on November 30.

The directors of the Alexandria Water Company (Limited) have declared a dividend of 2½ per cent., free of income tax, for the half-year ending September 30.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			
Consols	100⅜	1⅜	
New Consols (2¾)	99⅛	¼	
Reduced 3 p. c.	99⅛	100¼	
Local Loan Stock	102½	3	
New 2½ per Cent	93½	4	
India 3½ per Cent.	105¼	6¼	
Do. 4½ p. c. Rs.	71⅝	½	
Egyptian Guar.	100¼	¾	
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½	111⅝	12¾	
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	101½	?	
BirminghamCrp.Stk.	111¼	¾	
Liverpool	110½	11	
FOREIGN STOCKS.			
Argentine 6 p. c.	100	2	
Do. Hard Dols'.	63½	9	xd
Do. Treasury	92	4	
Austrian Gold	90	2	
Do. Silver	63	70	
Brazilian 1875	102½	3½	
B. Ayres 6 p. c'.	99	101	
Do. Cedulas I.	60¼	¾	xd
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1883	101	3	
Costa Rica A.	91½	2½	
Do. B.	90½	1½	
Egypt. State Dom.	101¼	2¼	
Do. Unified	80⅜	½	
Do. Preference	100¼	½	
Do. Daira Sanier	76¼	½	
French 3 p.c. Rnts	81¼	2¼	
Do. 4½ p c. Rnts	103¼	¼	xd
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	82	⅜	
Hung. Gold Rente.	83⅜	⅜	
Italian	95¼	¾	
Mexican Converted	39⅛	⅞	
Peruvian 5 p.c. '72	15	¼	
Do 6p.c.	16⅞	17⅛	
Portuguese	63⅞	4⅛	
Russian 1873	100¼	½	
Spanish 4 p.c.	72⅜	⅜	
Turkish 1854	99	101	
Group 1	26½	7½	
Group 2	15⅜	⅞	
Group 4	15⅛	¼	
4½ p. c. 1871	81	½	
5p. c. Defence	93	½	
5p. c. Priority	81	?	
Uruguay Unified	73¼	4¼	
Virginia Funded	39	41	
U.S. 4½ p.c.	109	10	xd
BRITISH RAILWAYS.			
Caledonian	111¼	½	
Great Eastern	67⅝	⅞	
Great Northern	115½	15½	
Ditto A	100	?	
Great Western	150	⅛	
Hull and Barnsley	34¼	5¼	
Lancs.and York.	110⅛	17⅛	
Brighton(Ordinary)	142	4	
Brighton A	129	½	
Chatham(Ordinary)	22⅞	3⅛	
Do. Preference	101½	2	
North Western	168	½	
South Western	138½	9½	
Manchester & Shef.	67	9	
Do. A.	35	½	
Met. Consolidated	73¾	6¼	
Do. Land Stock	69½	70½	
Do. District	33	½	
Midland	133	⅛	
North British Pref	73⅞	4⅛	
Do. Def.	50⅜	⅜	
North Eastern	156⅝	⅞	
North Stafford	110½	11½	
South Eastern	132	4	
Do. Deferred	107⅞	8⅛	
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.			
Canada Pacific	56	¼	
Cen. Pacific Share	35¼	6¼	
Chic.Mil.and St.P.	68⅝	⅞	
Denver& R.Grande	17½	¾	
Do. Pref.	47	½	
Illinois Shares	115½	14¼	
Lake Shore	101⅜	⅜	
Ohio & Mississipp	22¾	3¼	
Louis. and Nash.	58⅜	⅛	
Mex. Cen. Bonds	66½	7½	
Miss. Kan.& Texas	14	½	
N. Y. Cen. Shares	110⅞	11⅛	
New York Ontario	15⅛	⅝	
Erie Shares	27⅜	⅜	
Do. Sec. Mort.	92½	100	xd
Norfolk & West. Pre	51½	¼	
N.Y.P. & O. 1st M.	38¼	9	
North. Pacific Pref.	61½	2	
Pennsylvania Sh.	54	¼	xd
Phil.and Read.Sh.	2⅜	⅞	
UnionPacificShares	63¼	6	
Wabash Preferred	27	½	
Do.Gen. Mort.	42¼	¼	
Grand Trunk Ord.	10⅜	⅝	
Do. First Pref.	65⅝	⅛	
Do. Second Pref	45½	6	
Do. Third Pref.	25½	¾	
Do. Guaranteed	69½	70	xd
Mexican Ordinary	45⅛	⅜	xd
Do First Pref	114¼	15¼	xd
Ob. do. 2nd Pref	72¼	3¼	xd
Lombardo-Venetian	8¼	⅛	
Varna 3 per cent.	7⅞	½	
Nitrate Railway	27½	8¼	
BANKS.			
Alliance Bank	13¼	14½	
City Bank	20⅝	1½	
Consolidated Bank	8	½	
Imperial Ottoman	10¼	11	
London and County	65½	6½	
Union of London	40	1	
London and West.	66½	7½	
London Joint Stock	39	40	
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	42½	3½	
Stand. Bak.S.Africa	48½	9½	
MINES			
Indian Consolidated	¼	⅜	
Mysore shares	3 9 16	11 16	
Ooregums	1⅛	⅜	
Cape Copper	6	¼	
Namaqua	4¼	⅝	
Mason and Barry	11	¼	
Rio Tinto	24⅞	5⅛	
Montana £1 shares	2	⅛	
De Beers new shares	16⅜	⅝	
S. African Explor	17¾	18¾	
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.			
Anglo-American	45½	7½	
Do. Pref.	78	9	
Brazilian Submarine	13⅛	⅛	xd
Direct Unit. States	9¼	20	
Eastern	12⅜	⅝	
Ditto Extension	13⅛	⅜	
United Telephone	13⅜	14⅝	
Globe Teleg. Trust	6⅞	7⅛	
TRAMWAYS, ETC.			
London Gen. Om.	190	200	
London Street	13⅜	14½	
London Tramway	13	14	
NorthMetropolitan	17½	18½	
WATERWORKS.			
ChelseaWaterworks	260	5	
East London	197	202	
Grand Junction	123	7	
Kent	270	5	
Lambeth	255	60	
New River, New	345	50	
S'thwrk & Vauxhal	172	7	
W. Middlesex	267	72	
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.			
Gaslight & Coke A	247	51	
Imp. Continental	204	7	xd
South Metropolitan	297	302	
BrushElecLt(£4pd)	4	¼	
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Allsopp	7⅞	8⅜	
Guinness and Co.	310	12½	
Hotchkiss	10⅜	⅝	
Bryant and May	12⅞	13⅛	
Spratt's Patent	9⅞	10⅛	
Liverpool Nitrate	30	2	
Primitiva Nitrate	36½	7½	
Salt Union Shares	4⅛	⅛	pm
P. and O. Steam.	65	7	
Royal Mail Steam	61	4	
Nat. Discount Co.	11¼	¼	
Hudson's Bay	18⅞	19⅛	
Suez Canal	87¼	8½	
E. & W. Ind. Dock	23	5	
London and St. K.	40	2	

THE CRAWFORD COMMISSION.—BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

The Crawford Commission has reached the twenty-second day of its proceedings, and will probably sit for another fortnight. The evidence given by native officials in the judicial service discloses an extraordinary system of bribery and corruption. These confessions of criminal conduct have been given in evidence by the witnesses on a reported undertaking of the Government to hold them harmless. A rule has, however, been issued in the Bombay High Court by Justices Jardine and Birdwood calling upon certain of these native judicial witnesses to show cause why they should not be prosecuted on their own confession for having trafficked in public appointments and paid illegal gratifications to a public servant.

A LETTER FROM MR. BRIGHT'S SON.

The *Birmingham Daily Gazette* publishes the following letter, which was received in Birmingham on Saturday, in reply to a resolution conveying birthday wishes passed by the Liberal Unionist Association of Mr. Bright's division :—

Rose-hill, Rochdale, November 16.

My dear Sir,—My father is very weak ; but as he seemed a little better this evening I communicated to him the resolution which you sent me, and he was much gratified at receiving it. He wishes me to thank you and those who passed it for sending it to him. You are, of course, aware of the very critical condition he is in, and that we are all in a very anxious state. I am glad to say that the congestion appears to be subsiding ; but he is in such a very feeble state that we are afraid to build much on this improvement. Still, he is certainly better than he was on Wednesday.—Yours faithfully,

J. A. BRIGHT.

G. J. Johnson, Esq.

THE IRISH REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURNS.

The Irish Registrar-General's returns, just issued, show that the number of emigrants who left Ireland during the quarter ended September 30 last was 18,141, being 2,095 less than in the corresponding quarter of last year, but 782 over the average for the third quarter of the preceding ten years. The population is estimated to have been 4,777,545 in the middle of the year. Compared with the corresponding quarter of last year the returns of pauperism show a decrease of 1,370 or 3.1 per cent., in the average number of workhouse inmates, and a decrease of 1,117 or 1.7 per cent., in the average number on outdoor relief. Compared with the average for the third quarter of the preceding ten years, the number of workhouse inmates shows a decrease of 3,900, and the number on outdoor relief an increase of 7,366. The births average 21.8 of the estimated population, and the deaths 14.2 per 1,000. Measured by the recorded mortality the state of the public health during the quarter was very favourable, the rate represented by the deaths from all causes and that for deaths from the principal zymotic diseases being considerably below the average.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF DEVON.

The Earl of Devon died at Powderham Castle, near Exeter, about nine o'clock yesterday morning. He was born April 14, 1807, and was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1828. He obtained a Fellowship at All Souls', graduated B.C.L. in 1831, and was created D.C.L. in 1838. He was formerly Lieutenant-Colonel of the 1st Devon Yeomanry Cavalry, and was made a Deputy Lieutenant of Devon in 1845. He was Secretary to the Poor Law Board from November, 1852, to March, 1858; Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster from July, 1866, to May, 1867; and President of the Poor Law Board from May, 1867, to December, 1868. He married, December 27, 1830, Lady Elizabeth Fortescue, seventh daughter of Hugh, first Earl Fortescue, and by her, who died January 27, 1867, he leaves surviving issue—Edward Baldwin, Lord Courtenay, now twelfth Earl of Devon, and the Lady Agnes, married to Viscount Halifax. Lord Courtenay, who succeeds to the Earldom, was born May 7, 1836.

THE WOMEN'S TRIBUTE TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

The movement among Mr. Chamberlain's friends in Birmingham, in favour of recognizing in some tangible form on his return from the United States with his bride their appreciation of the right hon. gentleman's public services, is assuming a practical shape. At a special meeting on Saturday, under the presidency of Mrs. Stringer, the Women's Liberal Unionist Association adopted the following resolution :—"That this meeting is of opinion that on the occasion of the marriage of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain the high regard felt for him by the Liberal Unionist women of Birmingham should be expressed by the presentation of a suitable gift, and that for the purpose of securing this object the officers of the association form a committee for collecting funds and doing all that may be necessary in their several divisions."

THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH AND THE RECTOR.

The rector of Woodstock (the Rev. A. Majendie) holds very strong views with regard to the late marriage of the Duke of Marlborough. When the Duke came to Woodstock with his bride the rector would not allow the bells to be rung, and since the Duke has been at the Palace various incidents have occurred by which the Duke has resented the conduct of the rector. At a meeting of the ruridecanal chapter at Oxford on Saturday, Archdeacon Palmer presiding, the following resolution was adopted: "That the clergy of the rural deanery of Oxford recognize the extreme danger to public morals from the relaxation of the sanctions of marriage in many countries at the present time, and accepting gratefully the resolutions of the Bishops lately assembled at Lambeth on this subject, hereby express their sympathy with the rector of Woodstock in the difficult position in which he has been placed by his conscientious protest in a recent case within his own parish."

AN ECCENTRIC CLERGYMAN'S STRANGE WILL.

Mr. Justice Chitty had before him on Saturday on further consideration the will of the late Rev. William Wight, of the Arab's Tent, Chislehurst, formerly vicar of Marbury. By his will he desired to found a college for ladies—to train ladies for the important duties of wives, mistresses, and mothers. Woman, he asserted in his will, should be something more useful and more noble than a pretty doll, a butterfly, or a plaything for her husband. To this end he provided for the early rising of the ladies at the college, and for cold baths in the morning. He also provided for quarterly conversaziones, and directed that two-thirds of the invitations should be sent to single gentlemen. He directed that he himself should be buried in his garden, and near the grave of his noble Labrador dog "Friend." These bequests turned out to be illegal, and Mr. Justice Chitty made an order giving specific directions as to the distribution of the property among the next of kin.

THOUGHT-READING AND THE DETECTION OF CRIME.

MR. VAUGHAN "ACCESSORY TO MURDER."

On Saturday evening, at the Hotel Victoria, Mr. Stuart Cumberland (says the *Daily News*) gave illustrations of thought-reading as it might, he suggested, be applied to the detection of crime. The company included magistrates, diplomatists, lawyers, authors, novelists, &c. Mr. Cumberland prefaced his experiments by stating that there was no such thing as a power of reading a person's thoughts by looking into the mind and seeing what was passing there, but that what he termed thought-reading was the observation of the involuntary physical indications which corresponded to the thought or feeling that was predominant in the mind. With this explanation the experiments were proceeded with. Mr. Vaughan, the well-known magistrate, was asked to take the chair, and in that capacity he forthwith became accessory before and after the fact to a series of as startling crimes as were ever perpetrated before a drawing-room gathering. Mr. W. Lumley communicated to Mr. Vaughan his intention to murder Mr. Milner, Mr. Cumberland being out of the room at the time ; and then Mr. Cumberland, blindfolded and holding Mr. Lumley's hand, walked about among the company, and shortly fixed upon Mr. Milner as the gentleman who had been designated. It should be said that Mr. Lumley was requested to concentrate his thought, during the search, upon the person whom he had selected. The next thing was the representation of a murder with robbery, Mr. Cumberland being out of the room as before, and blindfolded during the search. Mr. P. Callan was good enough to slay Sir W. Charley, and a gentleman from the Russian Embassy took and secreted his watch. Mr. Cumberland, holding the hand of the supposed criminal, soon selected the victim from among the company, and, though the discovery of the watch was more troublesome, it was at last satisfactorily accomplished. After this, Mr. Cumberland found out which of three suspected men—Mr. W. S. Gilbert, Mr. B. L. Farjeon, and Mr. T. Lumley—had committed a sham assassination. It should be added that not only did Mr. Cumberland discover the imaginary victims, but that he repeated the manner in which the pretended crime had been committed, pointing a dagger to the same part of the body, and in one case this was remarkable, as the original deed was a make-believe stabbing in two places. Miss Julia Neilson was requested to fix her mind upon some article worn by any person present, and, after it had been discovered, to bestow it in imagination upon some other person. Mr. Cumberland, holding the lady's hand, had no difficulty in finding the owner of a ring which had attracted her notice, and in ascertaining that she had mentally transferred that article to Mrs. W. S. Gilbert. All the experiments were perfectly successful, though some appeared to present more obstacles than others. At the conclusion Mr. Vaughan expressed the thanks of the company to Mr. Cumberland, and said that what he had witnessed had certainly presented the subject to him in a new light.

THE WHITECHAPEL MURDERS.

The police authorities have received information to the effect that the Whitechapel murderer is supposed to travel up from Manchester, Birmingham, or some other town in the Midlands. Detectives have, accordingly, been engaged at Willesden and Euston, watching the arrival of the trains from the North and looking for any suspicious passenger ; but their efforts up to the present have not met with success.

The funeral of the woman Kelly has once more been postponed. The deceased was a Roman Catholic, and Barnett, with whom she lived, and her landlord, Mr. M'Carthy, desired to see her remains interred with the ritual of her Church. The funeral will therefore take place to-morrow in the Roman Catholic cemetery at Leytonstone. The hearse will leave the Shoreditch mortuary at half-past twelve.

The police in the East-end had given into their custody, shortly before midnight last night, a man who was supposed to be connected with the recent crimes. This individual entered a house of doubtful repute in Flower and Dean-street, Spitalfields, with a woman, and there made use of certain remarks, and acted in a manner which was considered sufficient to justify the woman in handing him to the police. He was taken to the Commercial-street police station.

ADVERTISING FOR THE STAGE.—ALLEGED SWINDLE.

A young lady, who said she lived at Caterham, applied to Mr. Partridge, at Westminster on Saturday, for advice, stating that she had been induced to part with £5 to a person who gave out that he was connected with the theatrical profession, and falsely represented that he could get her an engagement with a touring company. Singularly enough, the next applicant, who was a perfect stranger to the lady, also complained that he had been defrauded of £13 by the same person in pretty much the same way. Mr. Partridge said the affair looked very like a swindle, and applicants had better communicate with Scotland-yard immediately.

THE IDENTITY OF PRADO.—The *Soir* announces that it has learned, from an absolutely trustworthy source, that the real name of the convicted murderer of Marie Aguétant is Prado. He was born at Porto Rico, and is the son of an American officer, who led the last insurrection in that island against Spanish rule.

CARDINAL LAVIGERIE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.—Cardinal Lavigerie has forwarded to the secretary of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society the sum of 50,000 f. (£1,975) out of the fund of 300,000 f. given to him by Pope Leo XIII. for his anti-slavery mission. The announcement of this donation was contained in a letter to Cardinal Manning, a member of the committee of the Anti-Slavery Society, and the writer expressed a hope that Christians of all countries might put aside their religious differences, and join heartily together in the attempt to put a stop to the iniquitous slave trade now desolating Africa.

WOMEN'S JUBILEE OFFERING.—The Nursing Fund, to which £70,000 from the Women's Jubilee Offering was transferred some time ago, is being carefully worked out. The colossal statue of the Prince Consort presented to the Queen is rapidly approaching completion. Over a quarter of a million copies of the facsimile of the Queen's letter of thanks to the contributors have been distributed, and the demand still continues. The pearl and diamond necklace and earrings purchased with the surplus, and presented to her Majesty, are now, by the Queen's permission, on view, up to the 30th November, at Messrs. Carrington's, 130, Regent-street.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

EXAMINING THE ANTI-EXAMINERS.

THE BATTLE OF THE REVIEWS.

THE editor of the *Universal Review* takes the array of names paraded by the editor of the *Nineteenth Century* in support of a protest against the system of examination, and analyses it thus:—

"A WELL-DRESSED MOB."

"Who," asks sarcastic Mr. Quilter, "would question the knowledge of the painter of the 'Laus Veneris' and the composer of the 'Mikado' on educational subjects? their very names carry conviction! So, too, Mr. Watts, R.A., and Mr. Rowley, the Manchester picture dealer; Sir Charles Hallé and Admiral Elliot; Mr. Ransom (of the *Bedfordshire Times*), and Mr. Grant Allen (author of 'The Devil's Die'), Mr. Bell, a civil engineer, and the late 'partner' (such is his title to immortality!) in the 'firm of P. S. King and Co., Canada Building, King-street, W.'; and the Rev. H. R. Haweis, of 'Parson, Play, and Ballet' celebrity; and Colonel Kennard; and the Rev. Page Hopps, Leicester; and Mr. Crookes, F.R.S., the chemist; and the Hon. C. Guy Dawnay, of Belgrave-square; and Rhys Davids, the Buddhist; and Mr. Edmund Gosse, beloved of Mr. Churton Collins; and John Evans, who as treasurer to the Royal Society should know something about things in general; and Andrea Rohagliati of the Bradford Infirmary; and F. G. Stephens (the art critic?); and Mrs. Bagehot; and Mrs. Annie Besant; and Mr. Bowles (the editor of *Vanity Fair*?); and Mr. W. Wylde of Chelsea."

"WANTING IS—WHAT?"

"Perhaps in order to arrive at a conclusion as quickly as possible it would be simpler to see what classes of people are *not* to be found as signatories, and so discover wherein the deficiency lies. At first sight the absentees appear to be, speaking roughly, all those who are concerned with education, including, for instance, the inspectors of schools, the examiners, the masters of the public schools, the members of the Council of Education, the masters of the grammar and high schools, and, above all, those who conduct the various endowed schools throughout the country. A closer inspection, however, reveals that here and there, *raríssimi nantes in gurgite vasto*, a modest master pokes up his head amidst his alien and heterogeneous surroundings. They have to be sought for, but they are there. One is a well-known publisher, once an assistant master at Eton, and one a teacher of Persian in Oxford, and two (ladies) preside at girls' high schools at Aberystwith and Bedford Park, and one is the teacher of a day-school at Bury, and another was once the head master of a grammar school at Manchester; and to close the list with a grand sforzando, here is the Rev. W. M. Furneaux, head master of Repton School.

"There are, perhaps, a score more of assistant-masters, and with these the list of those signing the memorial, who have directly to do with education, ends, for we cannot admit under this head the numerous professors, employed and unemployed, who are at present here, nor even the tutors of colleges, who, unless they have very much changed of late years, have nothing to do with teaching. There is, too, one gentleman, who was formerly an inspector of Government schools."

MR. KNOWLES'S BATTALIONS.

"To resume shortly, there are in the list of which I am speaking, 376 signatories, which are made up as follows:—

M.P.'s	74
Scholars and Professors	70
Assistant Masters	31
Headmasters (Repton, Sherborne, and Gateshead)	3
Novelists, Doctors, Painters, Civil Engineers, Musicians, Ladies, Church Dignitaries, Publishers, Baronets, Colonels, Honourables, Admirals, and Contributors to the *Nineteenth Century* generally	198"

MR. QUILTER'S BATTALIONS.

Against this rather heterogeneous collection Mr. Quilter sets the results of a comprehensive correspondence with almost every class of persons directly engaged in educational work and possessing practical experience of the merits of various plans. To begin with, he has sent round to all the headmasters. Mr. Knowles boasted three on his side. Remarkably enough, they are the only three that could be got. All the rest are for examinations more or less as at present understood. The voice of the public schools, then, is represented by the following table:—

I. THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

AGAINST COMPETITIVE EXAM.	6. Harrow
Repton.	7. Charterhouse
	8. Marlborough
FOR COMPETITIVE EXAM.	9. Wellington
1. Westminster	10. Cheltenham *
2. Christ's Hospital	11. Sherborne *
3. City of London	12. Clifton
4. Merchant Taylors'	13. Malvern College
5. Dulwich College	14. Rossall

Eton wishes for an inquiry before expressing opinion.

* Partially against.

In the total number of answers received from public schoolmasters there is a majority of 108 in favour of competition.

But the wider the field taken, the more attenuated does Mr. Knowles's minority begin to look. Mr. Quilter sent round to all the other critics or professors of teaching that he could think of, and his results, on as fair a system as can be thought of to secure uniformity, we give in the following table, which speaks for itself:—

II. OTHER EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES.

	Answers received.	Against abolition.	For modification.	For abolition.	Majority for exams. as now or modified.
The Public Schools	122	95	20	7	108
Metropolitan and Provincial Grammar Schools, High Schools, and Colleges	142	114	20	8	126
Board Schools	75	52	10	13	49
Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools	32	24	4	4	24
Total proportion of educational authorities in favour of the present system of competitive examination, with due care of its dangers...					307 out of 371.

In fact, out of five or six hundred authorities, the whole number of abolitionists does not amount to 8 per cent!

LORD RANDOLPH AT PADDINGTON.

GONE HAS THE "AULD LANG SYNE."

THOSE who went to the Metropolitan Music Hall on Saturday afternoon, as some did go, in the spirit and with the expectations of people going to see and hear "the Lion Comique" at home, in his appropriate sphere, were sadly disappointed. There was scarcely a slang phrase, there was hardly a hint of the old audacity—rather, indeed, was there an apology for his partiality for both in the "old times"—throughout Lord Randolph's entire speech: his lordship was serious, almost solemn, alike in manner and in matter. Our "Randy" was lost to us, we feared for ever; in his place we had got a statesman, whom the people might at least respect.

THE MULTIPLYING MIRRORS.

Over three thousand people filled the music hall; but the mirror which lined the sides probably gave Lord Randolph the impression that he was addressing an audience of five thousand persons. The proceedings opened before the appointed hour, three o'clock, with the result that the entrance of the noble lord's colleague in the representation of Paddington, Mr. Aird, was attended with great inconvenience and discomfort to all the front-rank personages, not excluding Mr. Aird himself, who looked for a moment as if the "Roses of Heliogabalus" had been painted and purchased in vain. Lord Randolph was accompanied by his wife and mother, both of whom sat immediately at his right hand.

LADY RANDOLPH AND THE DUCHESS.

Lady Randolph, who wore a grey fur boa that extended from her neck to her toes, received towards the close of the meeting a cheer of special recognition, which she gracefully acknowledged. This compliment was also extended to the Dowager Duchess of Marlborough, whose occasional glances of pride at her talented son constituted the pleasantest feature of the afternoon. In responding to the vote of confidence in him subsequently passed, Lord Randolph, in apologizing for not showing greater energy, in the discharge of his duties to his constituency, pleaded "physical and constitutional reasons;" but on Saturday afternoon he seemed to be once again in good health, and, although he was as restless as ever in his attitudes, his voice was strong throughout, and an unexpected levelness distinguished the delivery of the speech.

QUITE A SURPRISE.

Lord Randolph's speech was a surprise; for it was distinguished by a great friendliness towards Lord Salisbury and his Government. He excused himself from examining foreign affairs on the "unique ground" that, despite the anxious condition of European affairs at this moment, the foreign policy of the Government "commanded the unstinted approval of almost the entire nation." Only in respect to our relations with America did he venture to offer words of counsel, vivid and thoughtful, that cannot fail to strengthen the bonds of mutual affection and esteem existing between the United States and the "mother country."

THE ONLY FLOUT.

Lord Randolph was altogether amiable: even Mr. Gladstone was treated respectfully, being recognized as "the most formidable foe that political struggle has yet produced." A mildly-humorous allusion to the rebuke administered to him the other night, "in a very solemn manner," by "the Attorney-General," who had objected to his "exciting the imagination of the people" over great administrative abuses, was the only flout or jeer that the noble lord permitted himself at the expense of Ministers.

THE BOARD OF "PERKS."

The strongest and most striking indication of his attitude towards the Government, however, had been forthcoming in his opening sentences. Arguing that the great reform just accomplished in London government was due to the initiative of Paddington, inasmuch as it was the chairman of the meeting, Mr. Fardell, who set him in motion against the Metropolitan Board of Works, he observed that his demand for a Royal Commission of Inquiry, "coming from a former colleague and a sincere friend," received greater attention than it would have obtained had it come from any other quarter. While approving the policy of coercion, however, the noble lord observed that "they must be careful not to look to the regeneration of Ireland to the administration of the criminal law alone." He acknowledged with gladness the new Land Purchase Bill.

THREE YEARS YET: THE SWEET BYE AND BYE.

The friendliness of Lord Randolph's attitude towards the Government began to be better understood when, denying Mr. Gladstone's assertion that "anything like a popular reaction had taken place against the verdict of the people at the last election," he proceeded to express his belief that the present Parliament has yet before it "three good years of active life, of useful and honest labour." These three years he proposed to fill up with a Unionist programme of urgent domestic reforms. First, he demands a searching, stringent, and organic reform in our various administrative bureaus. Then he would have them consider "how could we manage by legislation—or could we manage by legislation?—to deviate to the maintenance, to the stimulus, of other industries, a large portion of the £120,000,000 which this country year after year throws away in drink."

LESS LIQUOR AND BETTER LODGINGS.

Finally, he would have Parliament deal with the questions of over-crowding, the immigration of foreign pauper labour, and "sweating," so far as it violated principles of cleanliness, health, decency, and morality. These propositions were urged by Lord Randolph with great earnestness; but, while cordial cheers were accorded to each proposal, it was all too clear that they did not deeply touch his audience. The noble lord had begun his seventy minutes' speech as a "Unionist," but he unmistakeably ended it as a "Separatist;" for he distinctly pitted the "common sense of England" against the perverse sentiment of Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, and confidently looked to it to "carry us again triumphantly through the fight."

PARLIAMENT AND COMMERCIAL CORRUPTION.

WHAT WILL THE GOVERNMENT DO?

PUBLIC opinion is rapidly developing on the question of commercial corruption. The Metropolitan Board of Works exposure, gas scandals such as those at Halifax and Salford, and the wholesale system of bribing pursued by certain firms of which we have given abundant proofs, have made out a case for inquiry and legislation which can be no longer ignored. Governments are usually the last to move, and possibly Lord Randolph Churchill, when he puts the question he has down on the paper this afternoon, will receive a reply of a procrastinating nature, but action is inevitable, and that very speedily. Men who have the conduct of large concerns, which are heavily handicapped by the prevailing system of underhand commissions, have assured us that they are encouraged to fight a losing game on honourable lines simply by the conviction that exposure of the malpractices complained of is inevitable in the near future; and that by means of drastic legislative measures the honest trader will once more get a chance of competing. Lord Randolph Churchill and the other members who are disposed to enter upon the crusade may, therefore, be assured that there is a body of public opinion at their back powerful enough to overcome the inertia of the Government. What his lordship proposes to ask the First Lord of the Treasury is whether the attention of the Government has been directed to paragraph 94 of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Metropolitan Board of Works, and whether the Government will undertake to propose to Parliament next Session the legislation recommended in the said paragraph. The portion of the Report alluded to is the following:—

In view of the facts elicited by the inquiry, we think it might have a wholesome effect if it were distinctly made a criminal offence to offer to any member or official of a public body any kind of payment, fee, or reward, having any relation to the affairs of the body of which he was such member or official, and also to make the person accepting any such payment, fee, or reward, amenable to the criminal law. We are not, of course, proposing to define the terms of such an enactment, or the exact form which it should take, nor the nature of the penalties to which the offenders should be made liable. But we think the provisions of the Corrupt Practices Acts would afford some useful suggestions in framing such an enactment.

The Royal Commission, having dealt only with a public Board, confines its recommendations to such bodies, but Parliament must take wider ground. The evil is not confined to public bodies, but permeates our commercial as well as our municipal life. There is, besides, another phase of the question which must not be overlooked. Mr. Ellis Lever, who has done so much single-handed to fight the battle of honest trading, points out in a recent letter that "in some corporations, if not in the Imperial Government itself, there are men who are directors, shareholders, or agents of companies, or partners in firms, with whom their committees are making contracts. These men are in a position to unduly influence orders for the firms in which they are interested, and this ought to be declared to be illegal. It is not fair to the legitimate outside competitor, and I could mention striking instances where people will not tender, knowing the circumstances. I know cases where the contracts are given, not to the person whose tender is most favourable, but to the firm in which the members of the committee are known to have a pecuniary interest." The Limited Liability Act has been a facile means of making self-denying ordinances of non-effect, and that aspect of the question must also receive consideration at the hands of Parliament.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SHAFTESBURY THEATRE CURTAIN.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me, through the medium of your columns, to express the regret of the management of this theatre at the inconvenience experienced by the large audience assembled here this evening, occasioned by a defect in the machinery attached to the fireproof curtain? After strenuous efforts had been made it was found impossible to put matters right in time to give the advertised performance, and under the circumstances nothing could be done but dismiss the good tempered and sympathising audience. The public may rest assured that the curtain will be in complete working order on Monday.—I am, yours obediently,

Shaftesbury Theatre, November 17. W. H. GRIFFITHS.

THE DEWSBURY ELECTION.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—This Dewsbury election is rather remarkable. There is a mathematical precision about it which may be accidental. In any case, in its general features it corresponds to the law which most of the recent by-elections appear to establish. (1) The Conservatives have 305 more votes than they had in 1885. But 252 more votes are recorded; and, as compared with 1885, the Liberals lose 53 votes. Adding these together we account exactly for the present Conservative vote, which shows an increase of 305 upon their voting strength of 1885. This is a singular coincidence. Omitting all consideration of the 252 voters who did not go to the poll in 1885, we see that the strength of the Liberal Unionists is 53. (2) The Liberals dropped in 1886 to the extent of 1,007 votes, but in 1888 they recovered 954. They are as they were in 1885, with the single loss of 53 votes. It is, of course, reasonable to allow the Liberal Unionists a portion of the 252 votes not recorded in 1885, but recorded in 1888. If we give them one-fifth, which would be a most generous allowance, their total strength will be 103 in a gross poll of 10,090. That is to say, one voter in every one hundred is a Liberal Unionist.—Yours sincerely,

C. ROBERTSON HONEY.

November 18.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.

(AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.30. THE ARMADA.
SATURDAY NEXT, at 1.30.
Winifred Emery, Edith Bruce, Kate James, Ada Neilson, and Maud Milton; Leonard Boyne, Luigi Lablache, Edward Gardiner, Victor Stevens, A. Beaumont, Henry Loraine, S. Dawson, Mervin Dallas, Stanislaus Calhaem, B. Robins, F Dobell, Basil West, W. Uridge, F. Harrison, C. Winter, Fitz Davis, W. S. Parkes, H. Denvil, F. Thomas, F. Collings, and Harry Nicholls.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

LAST TWO WEEKS of Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD'S SEASON.
EVERY EVENING, at 8.45, PRINCE KARL. Preceded at 8 by ALWAYS INTENDED.
Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily from 10 to 5.
PRINCE KARL will be TRANSFERRED to the GLOBE THEATRE, SATURDAY, Dec. 22

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Miss GRACE HAWTHORNE. Manager, Mr. W. W. KELLY.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.0, a New and Original Drama, by HENRY PETTITT, entitled HANDS ACROSS THE SEA. (Enormous Success.) Messrs. Henry Neville, Robert Pateman, E. W. Garden, W. L. Abingdon, Julian Cross, Bucklaw, Edmund Gurney, H. H. Morell; Misses Webster, Barnard, Vizetelly, and Mary Rorke. New and elaborate scenery by Bruce Smith, Julian Hicks, and Richard C. Durant. Seats at the Box-office (Mr. A. Frye), open daily from 10 till 5, and the libraries. Doors open 7.30.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. HADDON CHAMBERS, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield; Lady Monckton, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THAT DREADFUL DOCTOR. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING, at 9 with the original cast. Preceded by, at 8.10, THE DOWAGER. Doors open at 7.45. Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity. N.B.—BETSY MATINÉE on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3. Doors open at 2.30.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Mr. THOMAS THORNE, Sole Lessee and Manager.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 210th Time. Preceded at 7.45 by THE BROTHERS. Mr. Thomas Thorne; Messrs. William Rignold, Fred Thorne, Cyril Maude, J. S. Blythe, Scott Buist, F. Grove, Frank Gillmore, and Mr. H. B. Conway; Mesdames Kate Rorke, Gladys Homfrey, M. A. Giffard, Banister, B. Harrison, R. McNeill, Bowman, Adlercron, Maunders, G. Arnold, &c. MATINÉE of JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART, SATURDAY NEXT, and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. 100th Time. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Louise Brandon, D. Drummond, E. Bufton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE LOTTERY TICKET.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)

The safest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron absolutely fireproof; lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 247th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, F. Kerr, H. Reeves Smith, Sant Matthews, Prince Miller; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Blanche Horlock. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINÉE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.

GAIETY THEATRE.

THIS EVENING, at 7.40, LOT 49, and at 8.30, FAUST UP TO DATE. Miss Florence St. John, Miss Fanny Robina, Miss Jenny M'Nulty, Miss Lilian Price, Miss E. Broughton, Miss M. Jones, Miss F. Levey, Miss A. Young, Miss E. Greville, Miss M. Love; Mr. E. J. Lonnen, Mr. H. Parker, Mr. C. Maude, Mr. W. Lonnen, and Mr. George Stone.

GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN LART.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, THE MONK'S ROOM. Messrs. E. S. Willard, Hermann Vezin, Forbes Dawson, Stephen Caffrey, Ivan Watson, Edward Rose, A. J. Byde, Edwin Shepherd, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Helen Leyton, Marion Lea, E. H. Brooke, Morland, De Solla, &c. At 8, THAT TELEGRAM. MATINÉE SATURDAY NEXT, November 24, at 2.30.

STRAND THEATRE.

(Under the management of Mr. C. H. HAWTREY,
By arrangement with Mr. WILLIE EDOUIN.)

TO-NIGHT will be performed, a Burlesque in Three Acts, entitled ATALANTA, at 9 o'clock. Mr. F. Wyatt, Mr. T. Squire, Mr. Fleming Norton, Mr. Rudolph Lewis, Mr. F. Wensley, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey; Miss Alma Stanley, Miss Carlotta Zerbini, Miss Florence Lancaster, Miss Mary Glover, Miss G. Baring, Miss Nellie Bennett, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss S. Baring, and Miss Marie Linden. Preceded, at Eight o'clock, by A HIGHLAND LEGACY. Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. Percy Lyndal, Mr. A. Edgemore, Mr. W. Wyes, Mr. Grahame Wentworth, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss Zerbini. Box-office open from Ten to Five.

COURT THEATRE.

(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)
(Under the management of Mrs. John Wood.)

EVERY EVENING, at 9.0 (by arrangement with Mr. JOHN HARE), LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, adapted by SYDNEY GRUNDY, and entitled MAMMA. 53rd Performance. Preceded at 8 by BOX AND COX. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open 10 to 10. Telephone 3,031. SPECIAL MATINÉES of MAMMA SATURDAYS, Dec. 1 and 15, at 3.

OPERA COMIQUE.

(Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, the successful Comic Opera, CARINA. Mesdames Camille D'Arville, Findlay, Ada Dorée, Jessica Dene, Wilmos, Murray, and Alice Lethbridge; Messrs. Durward Lely, G. H. Snazelle, E. D. Ward, W. Guise, Eric Thorne, H. Halley, and Charles Collette. At 7.30, THE BLACKSMITH'S DAUGHTER. Doors open at 7.15. Box-office open from 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY. Doors open at 2 o'clock, commence at 2.30. SECOND SPECIAL MATINÉE of CARINA, WEDNESDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Acting Manager, DOUGLAS COX.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE, Shaftesbury Avenue.

(Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, THE LADY OF LYONS, Miss Wallis, Mesdames Rosertha Erskine, H. Leigh, Lamballe; Messrs. Mackintosh, Bassett Roe, Allen Thomas, Matthew Brodie, Charles Arnold, Arthur Fenwicke, Herberte Basing, George Seldon, &c., and Forbes Robertson.

AVENUE THEATRE.

(Manager, Mr. H. WATKIN.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, CHASSAIGNE'S New Comic Opera NADGY. Mdlle. Vanoni, Mr. Arthur Roberts, and powerful company. Chorus and Orchestra of 100, conducted by Mr. John Crook. Preceded at 7.30 by QUITS. Doors open at 7.15; Box-office open daily from 10.30 to 5 o'clock. Early application is necessary to secure places. MORNING PERFORMANCE SATURDAY NEXT, and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2. Doors open at 1.30.—R. D'ALBERTSON, Acting Manager.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. D'OYLY CARTE.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, the New and Original Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN, entitled THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD; or, THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID. Preceded at 7.20 by MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Doors open at 7.

SAVOY.—THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2.0. Box-office open continuously from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

COMEDY THEATRE. — TO-NIGHT, at 9 o'clock, a New Farcical Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLES AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. T. G. Warren, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. Wyes, Mr. Walter Everard, and Mr. W. Lestocq. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Caroline Elton, Miss Kate Lee, and Miss Scarlett. Preceded, at 8.10, by BARBARA. Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

UNCLES AND AUNTS, TO-NIGHT, at 9. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 3 o'clock.—COMEDY THEATRE.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects, by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Sweetmeat Stores. Electric Light. Refreshments by Beguinot. Admission 1s. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station.

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A GRAND CHRISTMAS FAIR of all Nations, with special attractions, will be held on December 1st to February 23rd, 1889. CHRISTMAS FAIR. TOY MAKERS and TOY IMPORTERS (English and Foreign) will be allotted SPACE FREE in best positions. PROMENADE CONCERTS. "THE MESSIAH." CHRISTMAS EVE. Orchestra of Seventy performers. Chorus of Three Hundred.
Full particulars will be duly announced. Prospectus and applications for space of Secretary, Winter Exhibition, Olympia, Kensington, London, W.

ART GALLERY.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION SOCIETY.—THE NEW GALLERY, REGENT-STREET. OPEN DAILY, 10 to 7. Admission, 1s Catalogue, 1s, EVENINGS, 7 to 10 (Thursdays excepted). ADMISSION, 6d. CATALOGUE, 6d.

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THE
Pall Mall Budget
Of THURSDAY, November 15,
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PORTRAIT of the AUTHOR of "ROBERT ELSMERE."
THE SCENE OF THE LATEST WHITECHAPEL MURDER.
MR. GLADSTONE AT BINGLEY HALL. (Illustrated.)
MR. GLADSTONE'S DRIVE THROUGH THE BLACK COUNTRY. (Illustrated.)
DARK DAYS IN THE DARK CONTINENT.
THE LORD MAYOR'S DAY.
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The Banquet to the East End Poor.
An Old Lord Mayor's Procession.
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THE STARVING RUSSIAN ARTISTES.

Since our last publication we have received the following additional subscriptions for the above:—

J. Frederick Schwann	£3 3 0
F. C. Conybeare	1 1 0
Rose Mary Crawsley	1 0 0

A BLOW TO LONDON TRADESMEN.

Count Charles William Kaunitz, who has just died at Brünn, Moravia, and who was some years ago Attaché to the Austro-Hungarian Embassy in London, left personal debts to the tune of £35,000 due to London tradesmen. The Count was sole heir to the *fidei commissum* of the Moravian line of the Kaunitz family, worth about eight million florins. His father is not likely to pay the debts out of his own pocket, and no attempt can be made to recover the sum from the estates which were not yet the deceased nobleman's property. This will be a lesson to the confiding tradesmen that even the greatest expectations are not sufficient security.

AN OPERA SINGER IN THE STEERAGE.

Hélène Matasang, a tall, blue-eyed, well-developed blonde of about twenty years, recently arrived at New York among the 215 steerage passengers on board the French steamship *La Bretagne* from Havre. She was exceptionally well dressed for an immigrant, and attracted general attention by reason of a tiny French poodle which she carried in her arms. Through an interpreter she stated that she had come to America in search of histrionic honours. She is an opera singer of no mean qualifications, according to her own statement, and had for several years appeared in Paris vaudevilles.

A NEW INTERNATIONAL.

The "New International" is not a hoax which somebody has perpetrated upon the *Times*, but a real body, which is bent upon work. Its members are neither Social Democrats, nor Anarchists, nor Trade Unionists, nor Capitalists, but Pedagogues. We have had an appeal to join the "Verein fur Einsetzung eines bleibenden internationalen Erziehungsrathes." The principal object of this international school board is to secure "international unity in pedagogic principles." The projectors are convinced that the constitution of such a society would operate in the long run as an effective international league of peace. A common agreement upon one important branch of communal and national instruction—history, to wit—might "Christianize the prevailing misconception of patriotism." Schoolboys and schoolgirls in every civilized land are still taught in their respective historical schoolbooks to regard the wars of their own nation as its very highest achievement. They ought to be taught how only it was possible to carry on even the most defensible of such wars—namely, "by goading on the masses against the masses." There is a touch here alike of Carlyle, the Socialists, and the Quakers. If "the German schoolmasters won the battle of Sedan" humanity will certainly owe a still greater debt to them if they can teach all nations how not "to learn war any more." As the "seat" of the present headquarters of the International School Board, so far as it is yet constituted, is upon the Rhine, the projectors have boldly chosen a most appropriate spot, and we hope that some French pedagogues may be attracted by their earnest appeal.

THE TERM "NONCONFORMIST."

"Until quite a recent date," writes the Rev. T. Hancock, "the term 'Nonconformists' did not mean those who could not 'conform' to the National Church, but those who could not conform to certain 'forms' used in that Church. From Elizabeth to Charles II., from Thomas Cartwright to Richard Baxter, the English Nonconformists, without one exception, always vehemently insisted that they were members, and even the best members, of the National Church, and that their membership was at the ground of their Nonconformity. Those who now call themselves 'Nonconformists'—the Independents, Baptists, &c.—were always called by the Nonconformists 'Separatists' and 'Dissenters.' The distinction is one without the perception of which all English history, from the time of Elizabeth to the lapse of the Nonconformists into Unitarianism, must be a confusion to the student. The distinction has by no one been so clearly orientated as by the famous Baptist, John Canne, in his 'Necessity of Separation from the Church of England proved by the Nonconformist's Principles.' His argument is that as they had already separated in spirit from the bishops they ought to separate in body, and that as they had rejected the Church's 'forms,' they were bound to reject its communion and fellowship. He was answered by several Nonconformists, some of them beneficed, others suffering for their Nonconformity. But all the Nonconformists agreed in the one point—that it would be an act of schism, and contrary to 'Nonconformist principles,' to separate from the existing National Church. When that which was called Nonconformity in England was 'established' in Scotland as the State religion, the English Nonconformists had a just excuse for their expectation that room at least would be made for their ministry in their own Church. To accept office in the National Church, although it was a Nonconformist principle, would have been against the principles of Independents, Baptists, or Quakers, who were 'Separatists' on conscience, and were consequently never at any time 'Nonconformists'—that is, in the historical sense of the term, during at least the first century of its use. The Independents and Baptists started from the narrow principle that a National Church—whether Catholic or Presbyterian, Conformist or Nonconformist—can never be a 'Church' at all, and must therefore be forsaken by every fully instructed Christian. The Nonconformists, on the contrary, started from the more liberal principle that the National Church, in spite of its faults, is the true Church for every citizen, and therefore must be so 'reformed' that all consciences may be at ease in it."

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

(Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.)

SCIENCE.

CAILLARD, E. M. "The Invisible Powers of Nature." (London: John Murray.)
[The author of this little book—a lady—discusses gravitation, molecular attractions, the properties of solids, liquids, and gases, as well as heat, light, sound, and electricity. The object of the book is to awaken a desire for further knowledge, which, seeing that it is pleasantly written and displays accurate knowledge, it should not fail to do. Pp. 250, cloth.]

MOLLOY, GERALD, D.Sc. "Gleanings in Science." (Macmillan and Co.)
[A series of popular lectures on scientific subjects. Pp. 352, cloth. Price 7s. 6d.]

SERBATI, ANTONIO ROSMINI. "Psychology." (Kegan Paul.)
[The third volume of this work comprises Part III., which discusses the Laws of Animality; an Appendix containing a critico-historical sketch of the opinions of philosophers on the nature of the human soul; and two indexes, one of names, the other of authors. Pp. 123, cloth.]

TRAVEL.

AINSWORTH, WILLIAM FRANCIS. "A Personal Narrative of the Euphrates Expedition." (Kegan Paul.)
[Mr. Ainsworth was surveyor and geologist to the expedition, and his narrative is distinguished from General Chesney's in being of a personal rather than an official character. Two volumes. Price 32s.]

BEAUCLERK, W. NELTHORPE, LL.D. "Rural Italy." (Bentley and Son.)
[For the purposes of this work Dr. Beauclerk has divided Italy into twelve districts, the present agricultural condition of each being discussed at length. Pp. 255. Map of Italy in districts. Cloth.]

DEGRÉGNY, JULES. "Londres." (Paris: Libraire Moderne; London: Fisher Unwin.)

ROOSEVELT, THEODORE. "Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail." (London: T. Fisher Unwin)
[Spirited descriptions, admirably printed and copiously illustrated. 4to. Pp. 185.]

WOOD, CHARLES W. "Letters from Majorca." (Bentley.)
[The reprint of a series of letters, profusely illustrated. Pp. 410, cloth.]

HISTORY.

BENJAMIN, S. G. W. "Persia." (T. Fisher Unwin.)
[A volume of the "Story of the Nations" series. Pp. 304. Maps and Illustrations. 5s.]

LAW, ERNEST. "The History of Hampton Court Palace." Vol. ii. Stuart Times. Illustrated with copper-plates, etchings, engravings, &c. (George Bell and Sons. 25s. Pp. 311.)
[A continuation of one of the best books of its kind ever published. The author promises, in his preface, a third volume shortly, to complete the work.]

POLITICAL.

CLANCY, JOHN J., M.A. "A Year of 'Unionist' Coercion." (London: The Irish Press Agency.)
[Mr. Clancy's novel Year-Book will prove a very valuable armoury for Home Rule lecturers and others called upon to criticise Mr. Balfour's régime in Ireland. The Boycotting Prosecutions, the Press Prosecutions, the work of the "Star Chamber" and Prison Atrocities are set out with much skill. Pp. 164. Paper covers. Price 1s.

HOLLOWELL, J. HIRST. "The Royal Commission on Education, 1886-8." (James Clarke and Co.)
[This "Examination of the Statements and Recommendations" of the Royal Commission is published at the request of the Protestant dissenting deputies, and therefore vigorously attacks the reactionary proposals of the majority. The "Examination" is preceded by a chronological sketch of educational history, 1800-1887. Pp. 123. Stiff cover. Price 1s.]

WHITMAN, SYDNEY. "Imperial Germany." (London: Trübner and Co.)
["A critical study of fact and character," in which the author endeavours to present the general character, ethical and æsthetical, of the great people to whom we are allied by ties of blood and tradition. Pp. 308, cloth.]

FICTION.

BARTON, SAMUEL. "The Battle of the Swash and the Capture of Canada." (New York: Dillingham.)
[A "prophetic" shocker. Pp. 131, paper covers. Price 50 c.]

COLLINS, MABEL. "The Blossom and the Fruit." (London: 7, Duke-street, Adelphi.)
[A "true story of a black magician," rightly to understand which the reader must accept "the theory of the reincarnation of soul's as a living fact." Pp. 332, cloth.]

DAUDET, ALPHONSE. "One of the 'Forty'" (*L'Immortel*). Translated by A. W. Verrall and Margaret de G. Verrall. (Swan Sonnenschein. Pp. 307. 6s.)

HOLMES, J. G. "Ghosts' Gloom." (Swan Sonnenschein.)
[A novel in one volume. Pp. 335, blue cloth.]

NOTLEY, F. E. M. "The Power of the Hand." (Ward and Downey.)
[A "romance" in three volumes.]

"PROPOSALS: being a Maiden Meditation." (Ward and Downey.)
[A novelette in one volume. Pp. 157, paper covers, price 1s.]

TAMLYN, HARTLEY. "The Albino: a Personal Narrative." (Roper and Drowley.)
[A novel in one volume. Pp. 235, cloth. Price 6s.]

WRIGHT, W. S. "Tossed About." (Jarrold and Sons.)
[A volume of "Jarrold's Railway Library." Pp. 127, thick covers. Price 1s.]

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

TO-DAY.

The Rev. Father McFadden, M.P., at Bessborough Mission Hall, 8.15.
Professor Hales on "Ballad Poetry," Bedford College, 4.
Working Lads' Institute, Whitechapel—Distribution of Prizes by the Lord Mayor, 7.
Mr. James Burns on "Vaccination," Anderton's Hotel, 7.30.
St. George's Rifles Cinderella Dance, Portman Rooms, 8.
Temperance Question, Mile-end Assembly Hall, 7.30.
Lambeth Field Club, Hawkstone Hall, 8.
Eleusis Club Dinner, Chelsea, 8.
Teachers' Guild, Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, 8.
School Board Candidates at Bishopsgate-church-yard, 4.30; and at Lower Sydenham Mission Hall, 8.
Lectures—Prince Krapotkin on "Socialism," Harrow Liberal Club, 8.15; Lant Carpenter on "The Sun," Regent Park Chapel, 8.45; J. Forster on "Ruskin," Crystal Palace, 3; Professor Elmslie on "Socialism" Westminster Chapel, 8.15; Mr. Francis Hays on "The Pope's Position," SS. Peter and Paul, Rosoman-street, 7.45.

TO-MORROW.

Ancient Merchants' Lecture—Dr. Kennedy, Finsbury Chapel, 12.
Royal Victoria Hall—W. D. Halliburton, on the "Throat and Voice," 8.
Women's Liberal Association—British School, Allen street, Kensington, 8.
Civil Engineers, 25, Great George-street, 8.
Pathological Society, 53, Berners-street, 8.30.
Zoological Society, 11, Hanover-square, 8.30.
School Board Candidates, Bermondsey Town Hall, 8.
Royal Statistical Society, Royal School of Mines, 7.45.
Rev. C. E. Escreet on the "Housing of the Poor," Upper Chelsea Institute, 8.
Kensington School of Music—Concert, 120, Cromwell-road, 8.

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OF THE

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(TOTAL NUMBER OF ARTICLES, 804.)

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Share Capital (in 7,500 Shares of £10 each), £75,000; Debenture issue 2,500 seven per cent. Mortgage Debentures of £20 each, £50,000; total issue, £125,000.

Under guarantee for fixed payment of interest on Shares and Debentures, and with cash guarantee by deposit of £15,000 with the Trustees for payment of interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum upon both Shares and Debentures during construction.

Shares payable 10*s.* on application; £1 on allotment; £1 10*s.* in two and £2 in six months, and the balance as may be required, in call's not exceeding £2 per Share, at not less than two months' notice. Debentures payable £1 on application; £2 on allotment; £3 in two months, and £4 in six months, and the balance as may be required.

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OFFICES.—4, King-street, Cheapside, London, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company is formed to construct, equip and work a mineral railway, about thirteen miles in length, running from the neighbourhood of Palmarejo, South West Chihuahua, Mexico, to Zapote, on the Chinapas River, and also to construct a Conduit about ten miles in length to supply water power to the large Stamp Mills to be erected at Zapote by the Palmarejo Mining Company.

The Palmarejo Mining Company has undertaken during the construction of this line and conduit to erect reduction works at the terminus of the railway for the purpose of treating at first 80 tons of ore daily; and later on it is intended to extend the works in order to treat at least 150 tons of ore or more daily, which quantity can be readily supplied by the Mines.

The great value of the Palmarejo Mines has been proved by actual working for many years, and the reports establish the fact that they have immense reserves (upwards of 300,000 tons of valuable gold and silver ore well opened by exploration works), that can be readily mined, and that they have the capability of producing large quantities of ore daily of the value of £6 per ton. There are also over 10,000 tons of ore already mined by the Company, in addition to upwards of 50,000 tons mined by the former owners, and stored ready for transport on the completion of the railway.

The question of ascertaining with certainty what mineral freight could be depended upon from the Palmarejo Mines alone has been confirmed by Mr. W. H. Burr, A.M.I.C.E., of London, and Mr. C. Algernon Moreing, M.I.C.E. (of Messrs. Bewick and Moreing), of London, who recently investigated the subject on the spot, and from their reports it is evident that the immediate ore freight alone will amount to not less than eighty tons daily, which, at the agreed charge of 16*s.* per ton for freight and water power, will realize £19,200 per annum. This is estimated to leave a net profit of £10,000 per annum, after providing for working expenses, wear and tear and debenture interest, and will give a dividend of over 13 per cent. per annum upon the total share capital of this company. The mineral freight is, however, expected to exceed 150 tons per diem.

Agreements have been entered into between this Company and the Palmarejo Mining Company (Limited), providing amongst other matters for the guarantee of the debenture interest and of a minimum dividend of 8 per cent. per annum upon the share capital called up by this Company for the railway and conduit for the first twenty-one years from date of completion, and during construction for interest at the rate of 6 per cent. on all sums called up and paid upon the shares and debentures; or that, at the option of this Company, the Palmarejo Mining Company will lease the railway and conduit permanently on or after completion, paying an annual sum equal to a nett dividend of 7 per cent. upon the debenture capital and 15 per cent. upon the share capital called up; and the second provides for the payment of brokerage and similar expenses. Copies of the above agreements and reports referred to in this Prospectus can be inspected at the Company's offices.

For the purpose of paying the guaranteed interest during construction, the Palmarejo Mining Company has agreed to place the sum of £15,000 in the hands of the trustees of the Railway Company.

The debentures and shares of the Railway Company will be exchangeable at the option of the holders thereof at any time within five years from the date of said agreement, for an equal nominal value of the shares of the Palmarejo Mining Company at par.

The railway route has been surveyed by Mr. Henry Snyder, C.E., and by Mr. W. H. Burr, A.M.I.C.E., of London; Mr. Arnold Lohse, C.E., and Mr. Burr have also surveyed the line for the conduit, and made estimates for the water power.

Copies of the full Prospectus can be obtained on application to the secretary, the solicitors, the brokers, or the bankers of the company.

IMPORTANT SALE of BOTTLED WINES, to be held at the COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS, LONDON, by Messrs. W. and T. Restell.

MESSRS. W. and T. RESTELL will SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the LONDON COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS, Mincing-lane on THURSDAY, Nov. 22, commencing at One precisely, about 5,000 DOZENS of BOTTLED WINES, comprising:—

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111 dozens Sherry, Cosens', Domecq's, C. S. Campbell's, Gonzalez, &c.
795 dozens Claret, Château Lafite 1862 and 1875, Château Margaux 1874 and 1883, Château Brown Cantenac 1874, Château Latour 1882, Château Larose, 1879, and other wines.
177 dozens Red Burgundy.
130 dozens Still Hock—Marcobrunner, Rauenthaler, &c.
262 dozens Champagne—G. H. Mumm's 1880, Perinet and Fils' 1880-81, Louis Roederer's 1880, Veuve Clicquot's 1884, Cumuset's 1874, Arthur Roederer's 1880. Also
34 dozens Brandy, including Hennessy's 1867 vintage.
48 dozens Sauterne, Moselle, Absinthe, and Cherry Brandy.

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